

THE TIMES

Britain's trade deficit shrinks to £18m

Trade figures for May, announced yesterday, were the best this year. The current surplus of £32m if invisible exports are included. Higher exports and a sharp fall in imports, caused by importers running stocks, cut the trade deficit to £18m, almost half than in April.

Key figures the best for this year

The recovery was concentrated in the semi-manufactured sector, where firms are essentially selling components to other firms. There was actually a dip in the volume of exports of finished manufactured goods, which was caused by a heavy fall in the number of cars exported.

In the three months to the end of May, which is usually taken as the next period for assessing trends, the volume of exports fell by 2 per cent if the erratic items such as precious stones are excluded.

But much of this fall is accounted for by poor performance in April. Overall, the volume of exports is running around the level which it recorded late last year.

The figures seem to suggest that Treasury forecasts at the time of the Budget, that Britain would have a current account deficit of £150m in the first half of the year, were too pessimistic.

In the first five months of the year, the current account deficit is estimated to have been £59m, so it would require a deficit of around £90m in June for the forecast to come true.

Even these figures overstate the extent to which Britain's external account is in the red. They include provision for substantial payments to the EEC, which will be refunded next year under the agreement reached on EEC finance.

The trading figures came as a pleasant surprise to most dealers in the Stock Market yesterday, adding fuel to an already strong start to the new account.

Investors, including the institutions, poured their money on the latest hopes of a cut in Minimum Lending Rate by mid-summer.

As a result, the FT Index closed at its high for the day, 11,11 up at 467.7—the highest level since February 28, when the index stood at 469.1, and the biggest one day rise since January 16, when it rose 13.8.

Leading industrialists clearly reflected the bullish trend, with ICI up 5p at 386p, Glaxo 6p to 224p, Bowater 10p to 181p and Unilever 7p to 460p. But most activity centred on Dubai, after weekend comment, with Far Eastern interests snapping up over 3m shares.

Government Securities also benefited from the latest surge in investment demand from the institutions, with the government broker selling the remainder of the new medium "rap".

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Trade tables, page 20

Financial editor, page 19
Trade tables, page 20



Whitbread shires Mars, Mercury, and Sullivan starting their fortnight's holiday at a hop farm in Kent yesterday.

Million votes against reselection of MPs pledged by AUEW chief

By Ian Bradley

Mr Terence Duffy, general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said yesterday that his union would commit its one million block votes at this year's Labour Party conference in October against the proposal to impose a mandatory reselection process on all Labour MPs before a general election. The proposal emerged on Sunday from the Party's commission of inquiry into its organization.

Speaking on BBC radio's *World At One* programme, Mr Duffy, who voted against reselection at the commission meeting, said: "I am convinced that the majority of people do not want to have a change."

Our policy-making body, the national committee, have said that they do not want to have mandatory reselection, and I believe that the recommendation of the commission will be defeated at the party conference.

Although it is generally conceded that a switch of votes by the AUEW, which voted last year in favour of mandatory reselection, will have an important effect on this year's conference vote, there is still uncertainty about the final outcome. Some smaller unions who voted against mandatory reselection last year have decided

to vote for it this year, and the issue is by no means conceded defeat on the issue.

The outcome of the weekend meeting of the commission of inquiry brought a mixed reaction yesterday. The left and right of the party were united in describing the compromises produced as a disaster, but there was disagreement on whether they will be accepted by the party's annual conference.

The fiercest attacks from both sides of the party were directed at the proposal for an electoral college, which the commission said should elect the leader and oversee preparation of general election manifestos.

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The size of the college has yet to be worked out by a drafting committee consisting of Mr Michael Foot, the deputy leader of the party, and three trade unionists, but it has been decided that it will be made up as follows: 50 per cent from parliamentary party representatives, 25 per cent from affiliated unions, 20 per cent from constituency parties, and 5 per cent from other affiliated bodies.

From the right of the party, Mr William Rodgers, shadow defence spokesman, described the college as "something of a disaster—a major shift away from control of the policy by the creation of a kind of Labour corporate state".

Leading article, page 15

Last Supper fresco cracked

Milan, June 16.—Leonardo da Vinci's most famous masterpiece, "The Last Supper", is threatened with irreparable damage by a large crack that opened in the plaster wall on which it is painted.

Signor Costanza Fattori and Signor Gisbert Martelli, government artistic heritage superintendents, said the refectory of the Santa Maria delle Grazie monastery, where Leonardo completed the *Fresco*, in 1498, may have to be closed indefinitely for restoration work to be carried out.

The crack discovered yesterday, measures six feet, six inches long and almost an inch wide in one point. It stretches from the right side of the *Fresco* near the painted figure of the apostle John.

They said emergency work would be started immediately to prevent lengthening of the crack into the rest of the painting and that long-term restoration of the painting would take at least two years and cost up to £500,000.—UPI.

Fish dispute threatens EEC budget pact

France and West Germany have warned Britain that without solid progress over the next month towards a solution of the EEC fisheries dispute, implementation of the British budget settlement could be delayed. The warning came at a meeting in Luxembourg of EEC fisheries ministers called in an attempt to break the four-year deadlock over new rules for exploiting the Community's fish stocks and prepare the ground for agreement by the end of this year. The impetus for the meeting was given by the budget settlement, in return for which other member states extracted a promise from Britain that "parallel" progress would be made on other contentious matters, such as fish.

Leading article, page 7

Envoy to hear Israeli anger

The nine ambassadors of the European Community have been summoned to separate meetings in Brussels over the next three days with Mr Joseph Cleschanover, Director General of Israel's Foreign Ministry, at which the Israeli Government will formally raise its angry condemnation of last week's Venice declaration by the Community on the Middle East. The meetings seem certain to increase friction between Israel and the EEC.

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A new Civil Aviation Authority policy will allow many aging airliners on the British register, termed "geriatric jets", to stay in service beyond the economic life limits set by designers. Each aircraft will be subjected to ever-increasing scrutiny at its gets older.

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Law Report, page 3

Windscale mishap: Forty women at the Windscale nuclear plant, Cumbria, were taken ill after drinking polluted water.

Leukaemia: Up to 300 leukaemia patients die each year because of a lack of treatment facilities, a report says.

West warned: Mr Heath outlines five serious deficiencies in Western policy.

Classified advertisements:

Appointments, pages 23, 24;

Personal, 25, 26; Sale rooms

and antiques, 24.

French film classic: Prudence Glynn with a taping offer to mark the Queen Mother's 80th birthday.

Obituary, page 16

Reginald Savory.

Business News, pages 17-22

Stock Markets: Boutiques were further boosted by the latest trade figures and also saw the exhaustion of the new medium "lap" active trading. The FT Index closed 11.1 up at 467.7.

Business features: David Blake on the prospects for next week's London Film Festival.

John Russell Taylor reviews the hidden talents of the commercial art galleries; Michael Ratcliffe on BBC 2's *One Hundred Great Paintings*.

Arts, page 13

Paul Griffiths reports from the Holland Festival on Stockhausen's *Bent* and greatest aspiration.

John Russell Taylor reviews the hidden talents of the commercial art galleries.

Features, pages 12, 14

David Wain on moves over Kampuchea; Bernard Levin on a

National Oil Corporation.

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Letters: On monetarism, from Professor Sir Bryan Hopkins and Professor Lord Kaldor; sexual ethics, from Dr Alan E. Bentley; Labour and private schools, from Professor Tessa Blackstone.

Leading articles: Labour Party; Middle East.

Arts, page 13

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HOME NEWS

Ambulancemen's leader warns the Government against basing pay offer on inflation rate guess

From Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent
Blackpool

Ambulancemen warned the Government yesterday not to push them into industrial action by an unacceptable pay offer for next year based on an unrealistic guess at the future inflation rate.

Mr Terence Mallinson, national officer of the Confederation of Health Service Employees, told the union's annual conference at Blackpool that the Government was considering setting the pay norms for next year at 10 per cent. Ambulancemen would not accept such a low increase.

"I would say to the Government that something must be done for ambulancemen which does not force them into a dispute. If you put our backs to the wall, we will not be able to avoid it."

The basic pay was only £78.80, and that was inadequate. Last year Britain's 18,000 ambulancemen had received a total of 35.4 per cent from its pay claim and from the recommendations of the Clegg commission, and in January had received another 13 per cent, making a total increase of 48.4 per cent.

There was no mean improvement, but the union, which

represents 7,000 ambulancemen, was not complacent, he said. London was short of 600 ambulances, and 300 ambulances could not be used.

"We will be seeking to restore the ambulancemen's earnings position next January. It will not be easy, because the Government is committed to a pay policy in the private sector. The Government is talking about reducing the 13 per cent we received this year to 10 per cent next year, so we can expect virtually nothing from them."

The policy of cash limits was also attacked by Mr Eric Wilson, the president. He said that the nurses' stand against the present 14 per cent pay offer would be followed by resistance from other public sector workers. The 14 per cent pay norms were "unrealistic and unacceptable" and should be resisted, as should any statutory pay policy.

The Government's Employment Bill would worsen industrial relations in the health service, because branches would be forced to take more substantive action if their right to picket peacefully was seriously restricted. Nor would community groups be able to join in campaigns against hospital closures, because only hospital

staff would be allowed to picket.

He attacked the Government's intention of restoring the "scandalous privilege" of pay beds and all the paraphernalia of private medicine within the National Health Service. "We will see once again the sickening spectacle of those with money to pay jumping the queue to claim preferential treatment at the expense of ordinary men and women who have only the NHS to rely on."

Mr Stanley Orme, opposition spokesman on social services, also attacked the reintroduction of pay beds. We must oppose private beds, even if the demand comes from the trade union movement itself. We must say it is the interest of the whole and not of the few which must be considered."

There was no more room in the health service for such a hospital as Manor House, a private trade union hospital, than for any other private hospital.

The government was robbing the public by abolishing the earnings-related unemployment supplement, because employees had been paying contributions since it was introduced in 1966. "If a private insurance company acted like this, the directors would be charged and, I hope, put in prison."

Warning on fewer jobs for young

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Fewer young people may find permanent jobs after taking part in government special employment programmes, Sir Richard O'Brien, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, warned MPs yesterday.

Sir Richard said that about four adults out of 10 passing through the special temporary employment programme and about seven out of 10 young people passing through youth opportunities schemes found jobs when they left.

He defended that record before the House of Commons Select Committee on Public Accounts but gave warning that the proportion going into ordinary jobs from special programmes might decrease if employment prospects continued to deteriorate.

The proportion finding jobs after youth programmes was higher than it seemed, since a further 10 per cent won a permanent training place and could therefore be said to have successfully passed out of the scheme.

Sir Richard said that the 80 per cent success rate among those on youth programmes was "not a bad result".

He added: "I think these figures are going to be difficult to hold at that level in current market conditions. I have some definite signs that it is becoming more difficult for young people to get jobs. While I hope these figures will again come through in the next survey, they may not."

Sir Richard was asked what improvements had been made since the 1978-79 report by the Comptroller and Auditor General that MSC internal auditors who visited 136 projects had made serious criticisms of 30 of them.

Of those, 10 were said to be in "financial difficulty" and 20 in "financial muddle".

Sir Richard suggested that that proportion might be misleadingly high, since internal auditors were naturally directed towards those schemes where there might be financial difficulties.

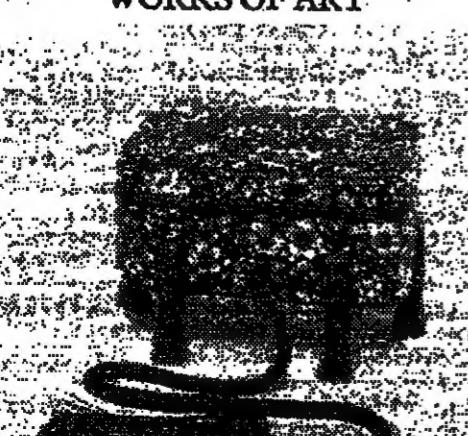
'Archaic' gallery rule

Mr John Hunt, Conservative MP for Bromley, Kent, is to ask Mr St John Stevens, leader of the Commons, to end the "archaic" rule that forbids people taking notes in the public galleries of the Commons.

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Union feels vulnerable under Tories' Act

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The forthcoming Employment Act will render the National Graphical Association (NGA) highly vulnerable to civil actions, but the printing workers' pre-emptive 'closed shop' is likely to survive virtually unscathed.

Those are the chief findings of a 6,000-word internal report on the impact of the Government's labour law reform on trade union organization in the newspaper and printing industries prepared by NGA research staff.

Experience of government attempts to restrict the operation of closed shops through the Industrial Relations Act, 1974, suggests that the legislation will have little effect on the maintenance of such arrangements.

It adds: "Between 1971 and 1974 many employers sought to preserve 'closed' shops and attempted to reduce the impact of the legislation by weeding out potential employees who displayed anti-trade union attitudes."

"However, there is little an employer can do to stop existing employees who are opposed to trade unions membership seeking redress from tribunals if they are threatened with dismissal for seeking to opt out of closed-shop arrangements."

The document says some legal authorities had suggested unions could ask employers to be ordered to pay compensation guaranteed that if the employers for unfair dismissal they would not seek to recompense themselves by trying to obtain a contribution from union funds.

The NGA believes that the

widening of the clause to protect those who object to union membership on grounds of conscience or a deeply held personal conviction "will undoubtedly lead to a flood of litigation, involving free riders and other eccentrics who, while accepting the benefits of trade unions, are unwilling to contribute to the maintenance of them".

On the issue of secondary action, the NGA document argues that the complex and legalistic formula to be adopted in industrial disputes when the legislation becomes law is "both restrictive and grossly unfair".

The paper adds: "In future disputes, unions in seeking to maximize the effectiveness of their action and at the same time remain within the law, will have to ascertain who the employers' first suppliers and customers are, and be able to show (convinced perhaps even Lord Denning) that the purpose of the action is directly to prevent or disrupt supplies between the employer in dispute and his supplier or customer."

One possible means of escape, suggested by some legal advisers, is that employers might be persuaded to include an express term in contracts of employment that employees will not have to undertake "black work". If that is done, the new clause will have no effect because the contract of employment will not be broken.

"None the less, this provision, coupled with the provision on picketing and 'acts to compel trade union membership', will render the NGA highly vulnerable to civil action against it in future

as well as to secondary action.

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The NGA believes that the

private industry can insist on realistic wage settlements from this country and must now face the realities of life and begin to pay our way, whether that was in the field of education, social services or library services. People wanted better services but were not prepared to pay.

Speaking to the Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Industry, he said that if that could be achieved, local government, which employed nearly 12 per cent of the nation's work force, could play an important part in overcoming inflation and getting the nation back on its feet.

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private industry can insist on realistic wage settlements from this country and must now face the realities of life and begin to pay our way, whether that was in the field of education, social services or library services. People wanted better services but were not prepared to pay.

The nation was today at the edge of a precipice and was doomed to failure unless the public sector and private industry restricted wage settlements this year to single figures. If that was not achieved, fewer and fewer people would be employed.

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Mr X complained to police and was "bugged" in an attempt to trap his alleged blackmailer, but he died from a heart attack while in a car with her. The tape of their last conversation was recovered and played in court.

Mrs Ellert, a clerk of Work Field Close, Coneygree Lane, Taunton, Somerset, showed no emotion when Mr Justice Griffiths added: "You are intelligent enough to know that there is no alternative to an immediate custodial sentence."

Her second husband, Peter, a self-employed builder, sat in a public gallery as his wife was led from the dock by police.

The jury took six and a half hours to find Mrs Ellert guilty of demanding £3,000 with menaces from Mr X, an author, college lecturer and retired policeman, aged 63.

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The judge



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HOME NEWS

New aviation policy will extend lives of the 'geriatric jets'

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Many airliners on the British register will be allowed to stay in service beyond their originally designed economic life limits under a new policy introduced by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Explaining the policy on what are termed in the aviation industry "geriatric jets", Mr Geoffrey Chouffet, deputy chairman of the authority, told a recent conference in London on long-life aircraft structures:

"Instead of setting arbitrary limits on the life of aging aircraft, the philosophy now is to ensure that each aircraft is subject to ever increasing scrutiny as it gets older."

"In medical terms, you could say it is a change from a strict policy of euthanasia to a more sophisticated policy of preventive medicine."

The aviation authority began an investigation into aged aircraft in 1976. In May, 1977, added point was given to the deliberations when a Boeing 707 of the British airline, Dan Air, crashed on the approach to Lusaka, Zambia, because part of the tail broke off. All six people on board were killed.

Accident investigators found that the airliner, manufactured in 1963, had made 7,200 flights with a fatigue crack in the tail. A survey of other airliners of the same type revealed 38 with similar cracks.

"Shortcomings in design assessment, certification and inspection procedures were contributory factors", the report stated.

Mr Chouffet said in his paper

748.

Jubilee Hall fight political, GLC member says

By John Youngs
Planning Reporter

The future of the Jubilee Hall, Covent Garden, had been inflated out of all proportion from straightforward local planning master into a political issue, Dr Mark Patterson, chairman of the Greater London Council Covent Garden committee, said yesterday.

He accused, openly or by implication, many of those opposed to the council's activities in Covent Garden of attempting to make political capital by arguing for the hall's retention. The Royal Fine Art Commission had "exceeded their brief" in objecting to all three possible schemes for the redevelopment.

The commission had indicated from the start that it was opposed to the schemes not on architectural or aesthetic grounds but because it wanted to get into a political debate.

He would not be deterred by the combined opposition of the Labour minority on the GLC, some dissident Conservatives Westminster and Camden coun-

cils and various national amenity societies.

The GLC would choose the winning scheme next month and would give planning permission, although there was a current licence for the use of the hall as a sports centre that did not expire until March, 1982.

"Planning decisions should not be political. I cannot accept that just because there is an election round the corner one should change one's policies".

The Covent Garden Community Association yesterday published a report accusing the GLC of laying millions of pounds on the restoration of the Central Market building, which is to be officially opened on Thursday at the expense of the rest of the neighbourhood.

The report is to be submitted to the Council of Europe in an attempt to force the GLC to its work in Covent Garden, which is one of four British entries in the council's forthcoming Urban Renaissance Campaign.

Parole query on man in jail 23 years

From Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

A former male nurse sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering his second wife at Bradford is still in prison after 23 years and has had his latest application for parole rejected.

This has prompted Mr Kenneth Woolmer, Labour MP for Batley and Spen, to ask Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, if he has any plans to review the Parole Board procedure to give detainees the right of access to evidence under consideration by the board and the right to be legally represented when a parole case is being reviewed.

Mr Woolmer's move comes after representations by two constituents asking him to look into the case of Mr Kenneth Barlow, who is in Kingston open prison, near Portsmouth.

Mr Barlow, aged 61, was convicted of murdering his wife at their home in Thorbury Crescent, Bradford, in 1957 by injecting her with insulin.

Mr Barlow pleaded not guilty to murder and still protests his innocence. In a letter to friends four years ago he wrote: "I fully accept the responsibility for Elizabeth's death, but it was not murder. It was a tragic accident."

Mr Woolmer has looked into

Men held on remand for a year, MP says

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Several prisoners have been remanded in custody for more than a year, Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, chairman of the All-Party Penal Affairs Group, said yesterday. He has written to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, calling for an urgent review of the matter.

"How can we satisfy ourselves that these aircraft, however outwardly robust, are not being weakened by some insidious and undetected process?"

The answer was the introduction of a structural integrity audit, under which the constructor of the airliners must survey and identify all areas of the structure where fall-safe characteristics were critical, and assess the acceptable extent, rate of growth and detectability of damage.

There was also an onus on each of the aircraft operators to feed relevant information to the constructor so that the latter could be in a good position to modify techniques where necessary.

Mr Chouffet said there had been instances, because there was ignorance about the process of fatigue, where a crack had not been found until it had reached alarming proportions in spite of regular inspection.

Among the airliners on the British register that quality to be included among the "geriatric jets" are Comets, of which only a few are in service and are to be withdrawn later this year, VC 10s, Trident Is, early versions of the Boeing 707, BAC 1-11 and HS

107s.

They believed it offered a more acceptable solution to the

problem of preventing a

reoccurrence of the crash.

The Home Office said on January 31 that 4,226 people were awaiting trial and 2,756 who had been convicted were awaiting sentence in prison or remand establishments in England and Wales. Of those awaiting trial, 1,321 were juveniles and of those awaiting sentence 174 were juveniles.

Home Office estimates for 1978 are that untried prisoners spent on average about 35 days on remand in custody before conviction or a finding of not guilty and convicted unsentenced prisoners spent on average about 31 days on remand in custody before sentence.

Some members of Boards of Visitors who are increasingly concerned about prison conditions are seeking to set up an independent association. Part of the board's job is overseeing prisons on behalf of the community.

Mrs Margaret Watson, a member of the Pentonville board, said yesterday that a meeting had been arranged for next Monday with Lord Belstead, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Home Office. Six other board members wanted to talk about the aims of the proposed association. It wanted to be independent of the Home Office.

Mr John Ward, of the Holloway board, said: "We do not feel able to fulfil our role properly by being in effect handmaids of the Home Office." At a recent meeting of Ilford Fabian Society Mr Ward said he would like to sentence the architects of the new Holloway prison to a spell there so that they could experience the full horror of overcrowding.

Planning decisions should not be political. I cannot accept that just because there is an election round the corner one should change one's policies".

The Covent Garden Community Association yesterday published a report accusing the GLC of laying millions of pounds on the restoration of the Central Market building, which is to be officially opened on Thursday at the expense of the rest of the neighbourhood.

The report is to be submitted to the Council of Europe in an attempt to force the GLC to its work in Covent Garden, which is one of four British entries in the council's forthcoming Urban Renaissance Campaign.

Mc Barlow's case for parole at the request of Mr Barlow's friend, Mr Frederick Stancliffe, a part-time driver, of Stanley Terrace, Park Road, Batley. Mr Stancliffe and his wife have been campaigning for Mr Barlow's release on parole for more than 15 years.

Mr Barlow's case for parole was reviewed by a local review committee at the prison last September. It was examined by the Home Office before being passed to the Parole Board and rejected in March.

Before the decision Lord Harris of Greenwich, chairman of the Parole Board, wrote to Mr Woolmer last November: "I am afraid it is not the practice for the Parole Board to give reasons for refusing to recommend the release of a prisoner".

Later, in a letter to the Home Office, Mr Woolmer raised the question of the possibility of access by an independent representative to evidence under consideration by the Parole Board.

In January, Mr Leon Brian, Minister of State at the Home Office, wrote to Mr Woolmer: "The papers which are considered by the Parole Board in my life sentence prisoner in

clude all the reports by medical and legal staff at the prisons in which he has been detained since he was first taken into custody, and sometimes reports presented especially for the review."

"These reports are confidential and I do not think it would be right to make them available to anyone other than the person of the prisoner's case."

Mr Woolmer said last night that the important thing was the question of parole and how it was decided, and the fact that a man had served 23 years in prison. It was not the question of guilt or innocence.

Some members of the National Association of Theatrical, Television and Kinematograph Employees have stopped voluntary overtime in an attempt to secure a pay settlement. The union does not regard itself as in dispute with the Royal Opera House; it was "a withdrawal of good will".

The effect of the ban has been to cause the loss of technical rehearsals, and so Covent Garden decided to simplify the production. Not everyone may consider the scenery a great loss; it attracted unfavourable comment when the production was first seen last year.

A dispute over pay differentials involving 24 car examiners and signal linesmen will halve the Greater Glasgow Underground railway system between 6.30 am and noon today.

Morning strike

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Opera without scenery as staff ban overtime

By Our Music Reporter

The Covent Garden production of Wagner's opera, *Parsifal*, was presented last night without scenery because of a ban on voluntary overtime working by some members of the staff, including stage hands. Black drapes were used instead.

Some members of the National Association of Theatrical, Television and Kinematograph Employees have stopped voluntary overtime in an attempt to secure a pay settlement. The union does not regard itself as in dispute with the Royal Opera House; it was "a withdrawal of good will".

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The cost of drug therapy was

high, accounting for £13m of a total cost of £15m for treating leukaemia.

Bone marrow transplants are given because the radiation and chemotherapy treatment for leukaemia destroys the patient's bone marrow, which is necessary for the production of blood

cells. A donor with matching

bone marrow tissue has to be found on the recipient would

reject the transplanted marrow.

The report predicts that the demand for transfusion is likely

to increase because the drugs that suppress rejection are im-

proving. A successful trans-

fusion could soon provide an in-

definite survival rate of be-

tween 60 and 70 per cent of those treated.

The high cost of transfusions

was likely to raise difficulties

for the health service similar

to those posed by the high

cost of kidney machines and

kidney transplants. A shortage

of finance led to wide regional variations in treatment.

Great steps forward had been

taken through the 1970s in

treating childhood leukaemia

by chemotherapy. Deaths had

dropped by about a third from

400 to 250 a year.

Yet about 3,000 adults lost

their lives each year. "It is

among the 1,000 or so younger

adults who die each year that

breakthroughs are most needed," the report says.

The cost of drug therapy was

high, accounting for £13m of a total cost of £15m for treating

leukaemia.

Leukaemia victims die for lack of facilities

By Anabel Ferriman

Health Services Correspondent

Up to 300 patients are dying each year because of a shortage

of facilities for bone marrow

transfusions, according to a report published today.

The demand for transfusion is likely

to increase because the drugs

that suppress rejection are im-

proving. A successful trans-

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The cost of drug therapy was

high, accounting for £13m of a total cost of £15m for treating

leukaemia.

Dentist jailed for perjury despite petition

From Our Correspondent

Preston

A petition signed by more

than 1,000 patients failed to

convince the court that the

dentist was guilty of giving perjured evidence

to the coroner.

Mr George Stafford, for the

prosecution, said that the perjury was committed on Sep-

tember 27 when an inquest was

opened.

He said that Mr Monteiro had created a picture for the coroner suggesting that

Miss Wallbank had been present.

The truth was disclosed on

October 3, when Miss Wallbank

made a statement describing

how Mr Monteiro visited her

at home 10 minutes after tele-

phoning her from his surgery,

as his assistant, Miss Karen



Have you noticed how luxury, like beauty, is often only skin deep?

If you're easily seduced by thick carpets and comfy seats, there are any number of 'luxury' cars to choose from.

If, however, you believe there's more to luxury than meets the eye (or for that matter, the posterior), the list of candidates rapidly shrinks.

Two cars that bear closer scrutiny are the Vauxhall Royale Saloon and Royale Coupé. Their distinctive looks owe as much to the science of the wind tunnel as to the art of the designer.

Both cut through the air with the minimum of turbulence and, as a result, with minimal wind noise.

A tapered, sloping bonnet and, below the bumper, an air dam reduce aerodynamic lift at speed and underline

the cars' remarkable stability and impressive roadholding.

Even the door mirrors are specially contoured to deflect spray and dirt away from the side windows.

Road noise, too, is suppressed not just by layers of insulation, but by the suspension itself.

Springs and shock absorbers, for example, have been

The engine, a silky 2.8 litre 140 bhp six-cylinder unit, is additionally steered by two diagonally positioned hydraulic dampers for further smoothness.

And automatic transmission is, of course, standard on both cars (with manual available at no additional cost).

Inside, the Royale is one of the few cars that allows the driver to achieve not just a good driving position, but the ideal one.

You can adjust the driver's seat for height, as well as for reach and rake and the steering wheel is tiltable.

As you'd also expect, the steering is powered.

Examine a Royale at your nearest Vauxhall dealer, and don't simply be seduced by the lavish specification.

You'll find it's one of the few cars where luxury is more than just a question of appearances.

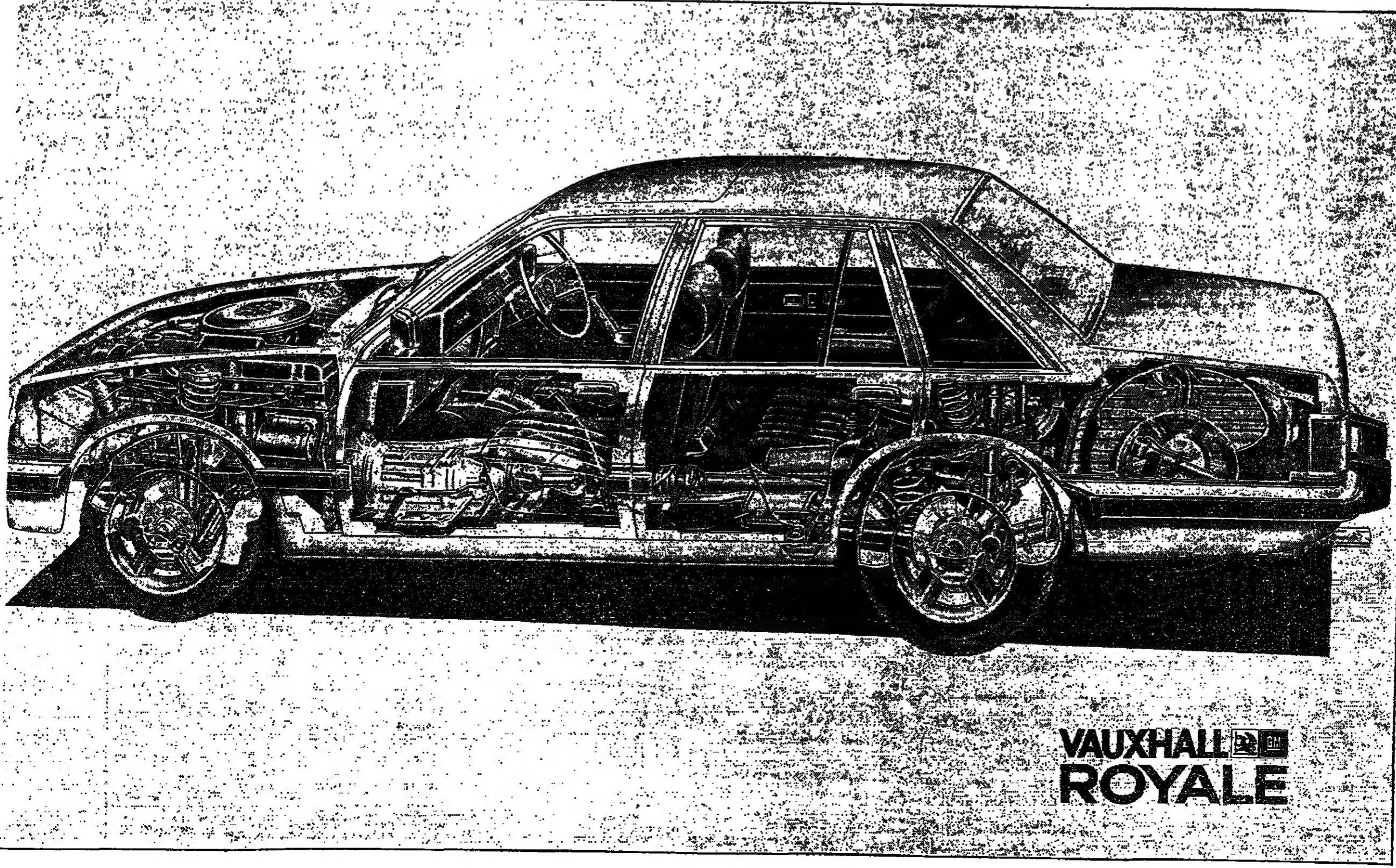
Luxury is built in, not bolted on.

mounted closer to the wheels than is customary.

They react faster and more effectively to the smallest movement and successfully iron out those irritating small bumps that can be so intrusive.

While the bodywork itself has a natural resonance too high to be excited by road vibrations.

AIR CONDITIONING IS THE ONLY OPTIONAL EXTRA AT £357. SALOON £10,524, COUPÉ £11,094. PRICES, CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS, INCLUDE CAR TAX AND VAT, DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES EXTRA.



VAUXHALL
ROYALE

PARLIAMENT, June 16, 1980

Middle East move supplementary to Camp David

House of Commons
Last week's declaration on the Middle East by the European Council meeting in Venice restored the two principles which, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said the statesmen had based on the basis of the European position—the right of all the states in the region, including Israel, to existence and security; and justice for all the peoples, which implies the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

A comprehensive settlement required that all the parties concerned should be bound by these principles.

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C) said that beyond that the European Council decided to make contact with all the parties in order to ascertain their positions and what respect to the principles set out in the declaration, and in the light of the result of this consultation process to determine the form which an initiative on their part (that is on the part of the Nine) might take.

The diplomatic activity which the Nine will undertake over the next few months intended to be complementary to the Camp David process on which the United States, Egypt and Israel are still engaged.

We agree and believe that in this way the Nine can contribute to the work which will have to be done to prepare for a peace settlement in the Middle East.

Earlier, Mrs Thatcher said: The Venice meeting was a series of general discussions between the Nine heads of government about the fundamental problems we all face within the European Community and outside. We had in mind the need to prepare a common European view for the economic summit which is to be held next Sunday and Monday.

All the nations of the European Community have similar problems of inflation and unemployment and a number now have an adverse balance of payments.

We were agreed that the 100 per cent increase in the price of oil, which could lead to a recession in world trade.

We were therefore disturbed at the pressure for further oil price increases at the recent Algiers meeting of OPEC. Such an increase can only make worse the economic problems of the industrialised countries and give rise to intolerable burdens for the developing countries.

The European Community remains willing to enter into a dialogue with the oil producers. Having noted the budgetary statement made at the European Council Ministers' meeting of May, the heads of government had a useful but necessarily preliminary discussion of the need to put in hand and carry through urgently a review of the Community's financial position.

We also took the opportunity to have a first informal discussion about the choice of new President of the Commission.

The European Council issued three decisions on the Lebanon, Afghanistan and the Middle East.

Those on the Lebanon and Afghanistan reaffirmed the concern felt by the heads of government about the position in the two countries.

Mr James Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition (Cardiff, South-east, Lab)—On the general economic situation, this statement is extremely thin and inadequate. Are we to take it that the EEC is going to the economic summit with the view that decision must be accepted that the increase in oil prices that growth must be put on one side, that the debt problems of the third world—the mounting problems that are affecting their development seriously—are not to be considered or action taken, and that unemployment in the western world cannot be overcome because of the increase in oil prices?

If that is so, I can only say to them that they are in another leg in the Middle East. The sooner that is recognised the better.

It would be fairer if Europe had said they would support the discussions that are to take place between King Hussein and President Carter and trying to involve other Arab states in that rather than coming out with a principle that we will add to the difficulties of the Middle East.

Mrs Thatcher—Regarding the economy, instead of having detailed discussions on particular aspects, we spent several hours having a general discussion on all the things I have mentioned—Inflation, and of course people were discussing about unemployment, the adverse balance of payments and energy.

The point was made vigorously that these summit meetings were never meant to be detailed statements on a number of issues.

What the Europeans are doing is far from being a general discussion between heads of government.

Mr Callaghan—Does she agree that the Prime Minister has given the statement that each and every one of us will have our turn to the presidential statement?

Most of my colleagues thought it was an unusually successful meeting. Of course, we were concerned about problems of unemployment, inflation and adverse balance of payments on which we could not draw up immediate and quick replies.

The Nine have confirmed their belief that a solution to the conflict in the Middle East will be possible only if the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are given effective expression to its national identity as translated into fact which will take into account

the need for a homeland for the Palestinian people.

No one can be precisely what it would destroy Israel, and to answer that the United States for its safety.

If that is the kind of initiative the statesmen of Europe are committing themselves to, it would be far better if they kept quiet.

(Labour cheer, and Conservative voices.)

A third principle is self-determination, that the Palestinian people should be placed in a position to exercise fully its right to self determination. That is a change of British policy.

This means that there is to be under the Prime Minister's policy a new independent state in the Middle East that under a right of self-determination can be fully armed on the borders of Israel, Syria and Jordan?

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d'Estra who does not support Mr Callaghan is at the moment the PLO which has said that it would destroy Israel, and to answer that the United States for its safety.

Mrs Thatcher—Mr Callaghan is trying to put words into my mouth. The words there are the right quick answer to that point. Mr Callaghan and all other heads of government have for a long time been in the same camp as the European Council accepted that if one people expects to stay behind secure boundaries they cannot deny that right to another person.

What you ask for yourself you must be prepared to accord to others. (Cheers.) That is exactly what we are saying. We have put in the chairman's report for the first time "right to self determination". I accept that.

The Palestinian people are entitled within the framework of our settlements to exercise their right to determine their own future as a people. That is not really very different from self determination.

We made it perfectly clear that we believe in the future of the Camp David process and regard this as supplementary to it. I believe this is true assessment of the situation.

Mr Callaghan—Does she agree with the summary of the Presidency of the European Council which says that there is an increasingly favourable attitude towards the right to self determination among young people and there was reaffirmation of the priority need for short-term structural measures in the context of an active employment policy?

If she does, is she going to bring forward measures to ensure there is an active employment policy?

On the Middle East, Mrs Thatcher knows how words are studied in that area. What the European Council has done is to go further than has been done before. The 1978 statement which took place before Camp David, I do not make much of that, but it was an important step on the way.

There is an evolving situation here in which the position of the Palestinians has to be taken carefully into account.

What the Europeans are doing by this initiative is going across much of what has been going on so far. It would be far better to involve King Hussein privately in this matter. We have discussions, whether that is to give public declarations of this sort.

If Mrs Thatcher is giving support now, as she apparently is, to the creation of an independent state, all the full rights of an independent state, she has gone along with President Giscard

and could be no settlement.

Mrs Thatcher—We already have short-term measures to relieve unemployment, particularly for young people, and there is a plan to get more people into training.

Dr Maurice Miller (East Kilbride, Lab)—Only last week the PLO again reiterated its intention to destroy, to obliterate the state of Israel. Establishment of an entirely independent state would put the PLO in a position to do exactly that.

Mrs Thatcher—I leave the question of the Middle East to the Jordan Government to decide to what extent the PLO should be associated with the negotiations.

What I think the European Council has done is to give the two principles about the right to exist binding on the PLO.

If these negotiations are to go forward, the PLO will have to accept the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the PLO, will have to accept Israel's right to exist binding on the PLO.

Mrs Thatcher—Is she going to bring measures before the House?

Mr Callaghan—We have had an unsatisfactory statement. I will leave the question of the Middle East alone, but I will bring it back to the House.

Mrs Thatcher—We have already had short-term measures to relieve unemployment, particularly for young people, and there is a plan to get more people into training.

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Photograph by John Manning

water lunch : Mrs Dorothy Graham, aged 79, outside the Office of Health and Social Security offices at the Elephant and Castle, London, yesterday. She was taking part in a campaign against social security.

are state in danger of muddle and direction, academics say

Correspondent defined by "beaten" "licked" the development of the state is in danger and "sick" because of its purpose, controversial distinguished academic today. He published by the Institute in a series of documents on the future state. Thomas Wilson, professor of Politics at Glasgow University, argues against Beveridge principles, providing social security high enough to a small cases. Real terms had more than twice been proposed by less selective poor people standard of living. Very few today fit.

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Report, 1979
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RUC men get life sentence for revenge murder

Two RUC police officers, Sergeant John Weir, aged 29, and Constable William John McCaughey, aged 29, were yesterday sentenced at Belfast Crown Court to life imprisonment for the revenge murder of Mr William Strathern, aged 39, a gardener.

The Lord Chief Justice, Sir Robert Lowry, told Sergeant Weir that he had tarnished the reputation of the police, and told Constable McCaughey, four times commended for bravery: "Your reaction, though understandable, was naturally inexcusable."

Sergeant Weir told police that Constable McCaughey got the idea of killing Mr Strathern in revenge for the murder of a policeman in the area.

In an alleged statement read out in court Sergeant Weir said that Constable McCaughey suggested that they went to Armagh to "do a man", and asked him to go to Lurgan to meet a friend who would help them. Sergeant Weir had previously challenged that statement, saying it was produced as a result of ill treatment. But it was admitted in evidence last month by the judge.

Sergeant Weir said they went to see a man called Jackson in Lurgan whom he knew to be suspected of being a top man

in the Ulster Volunteer Force. Constable McCaughey suggested to Mr Jackson that something should be "done" for the shooting of policemen. He had claimed that Mr Strathern had "kept some stuff for the IRA".

Sergeant Weir said that Constable McCaughey asked Mr Jackson if it would be right to use a "clear 45" if he had, and it was agreed that Constable McCaughey would bring the gun to a rendezvous.

Mr Strathern was shot on April 19 three years ago.

The judge said: "This is a case of which the major offence was the murder of Mr Strathern, against whom I think it should be repeated the evidence indicates there was absolutely no malice whatever; and that made it all the more shocking and all the more tragic that he was singled out as the victim in an act which was really an act of retribution or revenge because of other murders."

Constable McCaughey's father, Mr Alexander McCaughey, aged 60, was given a suspended sentence on charges of possessing the murder weapon an air rifle withholding information. Both officers were also given 10-year concurrent sentences for possessing firearms, and Constable McCaughey

Little saving seen in Civil Service grade cut

By Peter Hennessy
Brussels, June 16

A plan to abolish the third highest rank in the Civil Service, under discussion in Whitehall, could prove "an arid academic exercise" with virtually no savings to the Exchequer, it is claimed in a draft document circulating privately inside the Association of First Division Civil Servants (FDSA).

The Civil Service Department is working on plans to shorten the Whitehall hierarchy at the suggestion of Sir Derek Rayner-Smith, managing director of Marks and Spencer, and the Prime Minister's adviser on the elimination of waste. Abolition of the rank of under-secretary is one possibility.

The FDSA paper, entitled "The future of the under-secretary grade", was written by Mr Lawrence Brandes, an under-secretary who is head of the Office of Arts and Libraries.

He suggests that the policy making and coordination functions undertaken by under-secretaries would have to be redistributed upwards to deputy secretaries and downwards to assistant secretaries. Thus there would be little in the way of economies.

Mr Brandes divides the work of under-secretaries in three:

1. Supervision. Could submissions from principals and assistant secretaries proceed to ministers unaltered as they are?

2. Coordination. Is it possible to provide a professional service to ministers which accept that assistant secretaries would need more independence, as theirs would be at the grade at which the "buck stops". If deputy secretaries were expected to assume the supervision role, then their lives would become impossible?" and more of them would have to be reduced as Beveridge hoped it would be.

3. Direction. An under-secretary, Mr Brandes continues, acts as a trouble-shooter and, occasionally, as a peacemaker in disputes. He is also a senior manager. "Few of these duties are avoidable."

Mr Brandes concludes that if ministers accepted that changes in working practices were necessary, the FDSA should be prepared to discuss a reduction from five to four in the number of grades at the summit of the administrative hierarchy of the service.

Thus a Civil Service consisting of some 1,000 quasi-autonomous assistant secretaries, each of which puts before his minister plans based on his own appreciation of strategy and tactics, is altogether unthinkable.

2. Direction: An under-secretary, Mr Brandes continues, acts as a trouble-shooter and, occasionally, as a peacemaker in disputes. He is also a senior manager. "Few of these duties are avoidable."

Mr Brandes concludes that if ministers accepted that changes in working practices were necessary, the FDSA should be prepared to discuss a reduction from five to four in the number of grades at the summit of the administrative hierarchy of the service.

The five senior grades of the administrative Civil Service and their strength on April 1, 1980, are:

Permanent secretary	29
Deputy secretary	156
Under-secretary	585
Assistant secretary	1,150
Principal	4,662

Mr Strathern was shot on April 19 three years ago.

The judge said: "This is a case of which the major offence was the murder of Mr Strathern, against whom I think it should be repeated the evidence indicates there was absolutely no malice whatever; and that made it all the more shocking and all the more tragic that he was singled out as the victim in an act which was really an act of retribution or revenge because of other murders."

They are: Donald Atherton Kean, Social Democratic Party; Anne Anderson McCrory, Conservative and Unionist; John MacKenzie, National Front; Robert McTaggart, Labour; David George Mellor, Ecology Party; Gill Paterson, Scottish National Party; and Graham Watson, Scottish Young Liberal.

The by-election was caused by the death of Mr Thomas McMillan.

Other candidates: T. McCullagh, 1,000; P. D. S. N. P., 1,300; Labour majority 5,000.

ea to consider state of the economy in pay bargaining

ard expelled for criticism of big claims

Murphy, who
is in people
de unions unless
fundamental ob-
jects, unable to
shop steward
his own union,
expelled by his
the National and
ment. Officers' al-
legedly bring-
into dispute
diservice"

aged 38, head
Metropolitan and
public repre-
sent, whose salar-
y appeal against
airies's decision,
votes to two. He
it is intolerant
the union to
ber because he
ons which differ
ity view.

comes after a
e to the press
had received a
y rise in a year,
or a 14 per cent
July his salary
reased by 42 per
rs.

has been a de-
natorial conference
for five years at
xil. Despite his
continues to
ght views on the
ns to take into
state of the

economy when they make pay claims.

His belief in individualism, based in a working-class upbringing in Silvertown, east London, where his father was a member of the Transport and General Workers' Union, made Mr Murphy, a law graduate, take the unusual step for a local government officer of publicizing his views.

"Everyone must take individual responsibility and think through their own actions. Collectivism is simply the result of combined individualism but unfortunately for too long people have felt that it absolved them from individual responsibility. It is always the Government, the unions or some other authority who is responsible, but never the individual. People must be honest with themselves, he says, and ask whether the pay they receive is justified."

When his union's settlement was reached people were euphoric; but he had asked who was going to pay. That problem, he added, was of particular importance to public servants because in the end they had to rely on industry making profits.

"My pay rise, because I could see no expansion in productivity, was going to come out of a rate increase or by the reduction of jobs in the public sector. Is that what the union negotiators wanted?"

WEST EUROPE

EEC partners warn Britain that budget gains could be delayed if fisheries dispute is not resolved

From Michael Harnsy
Brussels, June 16

France

today by France and West Germany, that without solid progress over the next month towards a solution of the EEC fisheries dispute, the implementation of Britain's budget settlement could be delayed.

The warning came at a meeting of EEC fisheries ministers called here in an attempt to break the four-year-old deadlock over new rules for exploiting the Community's fish stocks and prepare the ground for agreement by the end of this year.

The impetus for the meeting was given by the budget settlement, in return for which other member states extracted a promise from Britain that "parallel" progress would be made on other contentious matters, such as fish stocks.

Although in general vaguely worded, the declaration of intent on fisheries endorsed by Britain at the time of the budget deal commits member states "to adopt . . . the decisions necessary to ensure that a common overall fisheries policy is put into effect at the latest on January 1, 1981".

Speaking after the meeting, Mr Joel le Theule, the French Fisheries Minister, said that if the key issue of sharing our fish catches had not been

resolved by July 21, when the next meeting is to be held, France might delay the legislation required to implement Britain's budget refunds.

Herr Hans-Joerg Kohr, the German State Secretary for Agriculture, also emphasized the link between the budget deal and fish, though in less specific terms than his French colleague. Both men appeared here, having spoken more strongly outside the meeting than during it.

For his part, Mr Peter Walker, the Agriculture Minister, dismissed as "absurd" suggestions that Britain's budget repayments could be threatened because of delay in reaching agreement on fish.

He told his EEC colleagues

that while he wanted an early agreement, he had no intention of abandoning Britain's basic demand for preferential fishing rights in its sector of the Community's 200-mile "pond".

The British position has not changed in its essential spirit over the last four years. It is that

British fishermen should have exclusive access to stocks within 12 miles of their coast, and a dominant share of fish caught between 12 and 50 miles.

These demands are justified

with the argument that British waters contain 60 per cent of the total EEC fish stock, and that British fishermen are de-

pended on this catch to offset the loss of fishing outside the Community's 200-mile zone.

Under current rules EEC fishermen are in principle entitled to fish anywhere within the Community's zone. Britain is protected for the time being against the full rigour of this

policy by transitional arrangements negotiated at the time of entry into the Community in 1972.

Mr Walker and his colleagues did little more today than circulate round the central problem of how to share our fish catches. They have already agreed in broad terms on the total level of catch permissible for each species. They will meet again in July.

In related discussions

Mr Walker, backed by the Danes, the Dutch and the Irish, opposed proposals to allow more Canadian fish to be sold on EEC markets in return for improved access to chiefly for Canada's fishing grounds.

Mr Walker said that the deal

being offered the Canadians

would let in an extra 8,000 tonnes of cod fillets, most of

which would be sold on the

already depressed British market.

This was a much bigger concession than the Canadians

were offering in return.

Canada's fish war with the United States, page 9.

Bitterness of Algerian war lingers in France

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, June 16

A defamation case opened today, which threatens to damage even further the relations between the French Socialist and Communist parties and all because of incidents which happened—or did not happen—in Algeria more than 25 years ago.

Whatever the facts may have been, it shows that the Algerian war is still a subject which can be politically damaging and can arouse the strongest passions.

The case, which is being heard in Belfast, arises out of an article in a Communist newspaper which quoted the local party secretary, M Jean-Marie Martin, as criticizing M François Mitterrand, the Socialist Party leader, M Edmond Maire, the Socialist trade union leader, and M André Henry, the teacher's union leader.

The three Socialists, M Martin, M André Henry and the teacher's union leader, M André Henry, the teacher's union leader.

The article appeared five months ago, but when the case opened at 8.30 this morning, M. Maire was obviously still very angry.

"I have been accused of having pacified Algeria with flame-throwers," he said. "To the accusations, I will reply with the facts. Having done my military service in 1951-52 before Algeria became independent, I was absent from the country throughout the war."

M. Martin admitted that he had done the research for the interview, "a bit rapidly," but argued that all he was seeking to do was to show up the double standards of the Socialist Party. He had nothing against M. Maire's union, even though M. Maire had claimed that the attack had been made because his organization was beginning to worry the Communists.

M. Martin, who is supported by 22 witnesses, will try to show that leading Socialists, such as M. Maire (with 12 wives) fought against the Algerian independence movement.

At Toulon over the weekend a bizarre ceremony took place, which also showed how strong the passions still aroused by the Algerian war. Three thousand people watched the unveiling of a pile of rubble which was meant to be a monument to the martyrs of French Algeria.

The monument was two stone columns and on one of them was relief showing a disconcerted Roger Duguépied, his uniform epaulettes ripped away.

Roger Duguépied was the founder of the Delta commandos of the OAS, which fought with brutal determination to keep Algeria French.

The Swedish King's visit to France ends on Wednesday with a visit to Pau, the birthplace of Jean-Baptiste Bernadotte.

King begins

W German visit

Bonn, June 16.—King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, on his first state visit to Bonn, today began four days of talks with West German leaders which are expected to focus on the Middle East, oil supplies and recycling Arab oil wealth.

The King's opening discussions were with President Karl Carstens, his official host, who drove with him from the airport to a ceremonial welcome at the Villa Hammerschmidt, the presidential residence.

The two men held brief talks before a working lunch attended by a Saudi delegation that included the Ministers of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Finance and Industry.

There will be keen West German interest in the Saudi response to last week's EEC declaration on the Middle East, which said the Palestine Liberation Organization should be involved in peace talks.

The King's visit has given Herr Schmidt an opportunity to sound out Saudi views on Middle East peace prospects before he and other West European leaders meet President Carter at the western summit starting in Vienna on Sunday.

No statement by the Saudis is expected before Thursday, when Prince Saud Al-Faisal, the Foreign Minister, is due to address a press conference.

West Germany is thought to have been concerned by recent reports that Saudi Arabia was under pressure from some other exporting countries to reduce oil production.—Reuter.

Ecologists choose presidential candidate

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, June 16

Conservatism has chosen M. Pierre Lalande, founder of the oldest and largest French ecological movement, Réseau des Amis de la Terre (Rat), as France's ecologists' candidate for the 1981 French presidential election.

OVERSEAS

Speech by Mr Begin puts strain on Israel-EEC relations

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, June 16

Diplomatic friction between Israel and the EEC is likely to be increased this week during a series of exchanges due to take place between the ambassadors of the nine Community countries and Mr Joseph Ciechanover, the influential director-general of Israel's Foreign Ministry.

I understand that the nine envoys have been summoned to separate meetings in Jerusalem in the next three days. The Israeli Government will formally relay its bitterly-worded condemnation of last week's Venice declaration calling for the involvement of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Middle East negotiations.

Diplomatic relations between Israel and Europe are under their greatest strain since the EEC was formed. Some European governments are known to have been greatly offended by a recent speech in which Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, implied that all the European countries, with the exception of Denmark, had collaborated to some extent with the Nazis in the persecution of Jews.

An indication of the likely tone of the meetings was given by the disclosure in the Hebrew paper *Ha'aretz* that Mr Begin told his Cabinet yesterday: "We must launch a comprehensive political and information campaign in order to expose the hypocrisy and cynicism of the heads of the EEC countries."

The disclosure coincided with reports that some ministers had tried to tone down the wording of Mr Begin's speech. Mr Gideon Patti, the Minister of Trade and Industry, reminding his colleagues of Israel's economic ties with the EEC. Ministers did succeed in preventing Mr Begin from including a passage threatening that Israeli forces would wipe out the PLO in 24 hours, if it attacked Israel.

"Anger at the EEC has not been restricted to the Cabinet. In a leading article *Ha'aretz*,

the paper of the National Religious Party—part of Mr Begin's shaky coalition—commented: "It is necessary to make a total enlistment of Jewish people everywhere in the world to arise in unceasing protest against the satanic plan of France, England, Germany and the rest."

Mr John Robinson, the recently appointed British Ambassador, told me today: "I regret the very emotional tone of the Cabinet's statement which seemed not to take into account what the heads of government of nine friendly countries had tried to do, or what they actually said."

I noticed that the remarks attributed to the Foreign Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, and the reaction of some senior officials seems to have been a good deal less emotional and rather more in line with the first reactions in Washington and the East Coast press, which saw Europe adopting a middle position."

Mr Robinson said that he had heard nothing to substantiate rumours that Israel would refuse to cooperate with the proposed EEC fact-finding mission to the Middle East. According to Israeli sources, no final decision will be made on this issue until the EEC formally announces the mission's itinerary.

Commenting on Mr Begin's remark on European collaboration in Nazi outrages, Mr Robinson said: "I found it incredible that this allegation had been made, but, unfortunately, it seems that it was. Of course it is offensive to British people, and I reject it."

Earlier, Mr Shimon Peres, leader of Israel's opposition Labour Party, also criticized the Venice declaration. He singled out France for particular condemnation and described the French position on the Middle East as more extreme than Egypt's. Since Europe did not see itself as a political entity, he said there was no need for such an initiative.

Parliamentary report, page 5. Leading article, page 15

Arab guerrillas intercepted and killed off coast resort

From Moshe Brillant
Tel Aviv, June 16

A dinghy carrying heavily-armed Arabs towards the Israeli coast was intercepted and destroyed by a navy patrol boat early today.

Three Arabs were killed in a brief exchange of fire about a mile and a half off the coast at Achziv. The military command here said that a "terrorist hit" had been foiled. One Israeli seaman was hurt.

Some of the bloodiest attacks in Israel have been carried out by guerrillas who landed from the sea. The last landing was at Nahariya on April 22 last year when terrorists abducted a man and his daughter but were killed or captured by soldiers on the beach as they tried to escape with their hostages.

Officials here denied a Damascus report that the three men had inflicted heavy casualties in Achziv, a beach resort, before they were killed.

The officials said the boat had been ordered to stop for identification. As the Israeli craft approached a guerrilla fired a bazooka. The Israeli's returned the fire, killing the guerrillas.

The wreckage was towed to the beach. It contained an American 16mm rifle, a pistol

with silencer and a grenade launcher.

Comments found on the guerrillas identified them as members of Al Fatah, the largest of the organizations making up the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Israeli aircraft and ships searched the sea for other raiders and ground forces combed coastal areas. Searches were conducted across the border by Major Saad Haddad's Christian militia, which is allied to Israel.

Israeli radio said this evening that the raiders apparently sailed from the Lebanese port of Raschadiya, about 10 miles north of the border.

It was reported that a young woman soldier in her first week as a radar operator spotted the intruders.

An analyst said that there appeared to have been a change in guerrilla tactics. Hitherto landings had been at night and the raiders had tried to seize Israeli hostages to be bartered for guerrillas in Israeli prisons. That failed because the Israelis refused to negotiate.

The analyst said that, the dinghy had been heading towards the coast in daylight and he speculated that the raiders planned to shoot early bathers and escape.

Officials here denied a Damascus report that the three men had inflicted heavy casualties in Achziv, a beach resort, before they were killed.

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Damascus

Baptism should fire the opening shot at Ascot

J. Phillips
correspondent
must be the watchword
the first day of Royal
Ascot, a betting and a
point of view. After
weeks of dry weather
rain, sun, cold and dogs,
during the last week,
inevitably it will be
underfoot for horse
alike that it would
be a week ago. Further,
were gale force winds
and I shudder to think
happened to all those
if those winds persist.

circumstances the form
easily be misleading.
most horses have
been to racing on fast
soil, and the track
will relish the con-
dition and he is a
election to win the
Stakes for the second
season in spite of the
fact that his stable
had won the Prix Du
Jockey Club just
night ago Pat Eddery
at he had done so
uncontrollable sense
and the track was
When Baptism won
12 months ago he was
runner-up. Either
iggoon will be par-
ticipate today, only
men who are permitted
are under contract to
Walwyn and Vincent
respectively, they are now
Berry and Habituale.
they have much more
in their favour. Baptism
has good chances,
form there is not
in them, just as there
en Fovers and Hard-
breed New Berry
and a half at Epsom
May and June. New
over off. Before that
Habituale had
inside each other in
Stakes at Newbury,
Kris; and before that
Fovers had also
not been used by
Habituale.
who cannot be ruled
out is Blue Reffain.
A fine record at
the Windsor Castle
meeting in 1978 and

Dalsman and Lester Piggott, likely to head the market for the St James's Palace Stakes.

the Jersey Stakes last year. This
season he has already been runner-
up to the Victoria Cup and with
that sort of record he will not be
short of supporters this afternoon.
However, he still prefers Baptism.
For as long as I can remember
the St James's Palace Stakes
always went the race on the
card on the first day and it has
looked wasted in that position.
Now at long last this jewel has
assumed its rightful place in the
midst of this particular crown and

how well that move has been
justified. This year the field in-
cludes Last Fandango, Final Straw
and Passe, the colts who finished
second, third and fourth in the
Irish 3,000 Guineas; Marathon
Gold, one of the better two-year-
olds in training; Istvan and
Baptism from the Prix Du
Jockey Club at Epsom in
April; and Dalsman at his usual
limits. The only limitations
are difficult to gauge just on
the way that he won his only race
at Kempton Park this season.

7 chance at Chantilly to assess bloodstock market

Phillips
real opportunity to
of the bloodstock
market level this
earlier. Ususly
it until the American
in Kentucky towards
July, but this year
the market is polarised at
Monday, the most of
Goffs, the others are holding a
in training.
catalogue com-
s, the main interest are
the first 12. They
ats and six furlongs, all
they made \$1,400,000

two-year-olds, who are due to be
sold without reserve by Seymour
Weintraub, who is having to set
rid of all his bloodstock because
of the collapse of the price of
silver earlier this year. His two-
year-olds were all bred in the
United States, the Blue Grass
by Welsh Bloodstock, and they
were bought by Mr Weintraub
at public auction last July
for the staggering total of \$6.4
million.

The two most likely to arouse
interest are Baro's Bold and
Golden Alibi, and with good
reason. When they were first sold
they made \$1,400,000

respectively. Baro's Bold is a full-brother to such
notable winners as Lephant, him-
self a stallion of report, and Sir Wiggle,
Nobility, by Bold Forbes, who
won the Kentucky Derby and the
Belmont Stakes in his heyday on
the racetrack. Baro's Bold is one
of his best offspring.

Golden Alibi is a half-sister to
an outstanding mare, Dahlia,
whose 15 victories between the
ages of two and five included the
King George VI and Queen
Elizabeth Diamond Stakes twice,
the Aga Khan will be selling an-
other useful three-year-old, Max-
well, who has been trained
further north in England by Michael
Stoute.

Ascot programme

(BBC 1): 2.30, 3.05 and 3.45 races BBC 2: 4.20 races.

ANNE STAKES (Group III: £11,916: 1m)

Saint (CD) (J. Whitley), 6.1. Wood, G. Horne, 4
Blue Reffain (CD) (P. Muller), 6.1. H. Moore, 4
Favers (C. M. Lupton), C. H. Hartman, 3-6. W. S. Lewis, 1
Habituale (D. B. French), V. L. Mason, 3-6. N. Edwards, 1
Habituale (D. B. French), V. L. Mason, 3-6. N. Edwards, 1
New Berry (D. B. French), P. D. Jones, 3-6. N. Edwards, 1
Last Fandango (D. B. French), P. D. Jones, 3-6. N. Edwards, 1
Tenn Strauss (Mrs J. Haywood-Jones), N. McCormick, 3-6. N. Edwards, 1
Welsh Chaser (CD) (H. J. Joel), H. Cecil, 1-6. J. Fletcher, 1
Tommy (D. B. French), 1-6. J. Fletcher, 1
The Anchor (D. Haig), P. Prendergast, 1-6. J. Fletcher, 1
2-6. H. Moore, 5-1. Habituale, 6-1. New Berry, 6-1. Last Fandango, 6-1. The Anchor, 6-1. others.

Ascot, June 1. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 2. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 3. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 4. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 5. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 6. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 7. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 8. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 9. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 10. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 11. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 12. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 13. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 14. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 15. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 16. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 17. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 18. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 19. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 20. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 21. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 22. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 23. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 24. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 25. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 26. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 27. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 28. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 29. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 30. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, June 31. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 1. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 2. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 3. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 4. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 5. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 6. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 7. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 8. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 9. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 10. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 11. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 12. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 13. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 14. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 15. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 16. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 17. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 18. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
1st: Mrs. T. B. Moore, 2.1. Last Fandango, 2.1. The Anchor, 2.1. others.

Ascot, July 19. 7.0-1. First run after 7 runs.
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Fashion

by

Prudence Glynn

Birds do it, witness the swallow; bees do it, witness the hive; and gallant officers at their ease do it. And let me say straight away I mean making intricately patterned constructions—in the case of the gallant officers with a needle.

According to the Royal School of Needlework, an impeccable source as proved when this foundation of one of the daughters of Queen Victoria (Princess Christian) acted as the springboard for the SAS move on the Iranian Embassy a few doors up without, it seems, dropping a single stitch, men are more patient and just generally better at it.

My own mean theory is that women, mostly do embroidery as an elegant pastime to impress with a flurry of activity guests who suspect that they have spent the afternoon having a nap or their hair done, or both.

I have yet to see a man at his embroidery, at any hour of the day, so I am not in a position to advise readers just how this situation has come about.

Do they rise at dawn, or do it in the gazebo? Anyway, more and more people are doing embroidery now for whatever therapeutic, social or creative reasons, and so today I thought it would be very nice to celebrate Royal Ascot, since the Turf is so dear to her heart, with a commemoration of the 80th birthday of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. Yes I know everyone's doing it, but naturally *The Times* is doing something very special.

That very special thing is to engage the talents of a brilliant young designer, marry it to the skill and loving craftsmanship which is the inheritance of the very best of our textile trade and serve up the result to you, the customer, in the most appropriate and digestible form.

I therefore commissioned

an entirely original tapestry design from the Royal School of Needlework, which epitomizes my idea of stands suitable to advocate plumped through a mettle of spectacle cases; slippers, bell gulls in fact almost anything you care to want to embroider and came up, wait for it, with a cushion.

Does it sound a little dull?

I thought it was just very, very practical. Since it measures only 33 centimetres square (13in. to the unmetrised) it is infinitely variable in use. It can be a cushion; it can cover a doorstop or a door pad. You could, if you really wanted to, divide it and make it into shoes or a hat.

The most important thing

is that it allows a great deal of leeway depending on your skill. The whole motif is worked in tent stitch, but the exceptional design and contrast of colours produced by Susan Skeen, who is on the design side headed by Cynthia Mitchell, and worked by Selina Winter and Wendy Hogg offers unlimited potential to the brave.

The most important thing

You could work any area in a different stitch, I am credibly informed, though since I have never got further than row three on my own oeuvre, which is supposed to be nutatches on nut bushes but so far resembles nothing more than a partly bald canvas with some very off-white wool among the bushes (the cats took the subject and the wool too literally); please do not blame me if you blast off into satin stitch and waste your £16.95s.

Even if you do, all may be lost, since the Royal School could probably put it right for you. They can provide everything from a portrait of your pet to a thimble. They just worked the Longleat wall hanging and are able to prepare tennis racket covers, your Louis XV chair seat or kit out the regimental mascot.

The design of the tapestry I asked for may come as something of a surprise to loyalist admirers of the Queen Mother. But I try never to interfere with the imaginative and it seemed to me that to have a very fairies design was much more fun. After all, she did come to the throne in 1936. Hence our Savoy Hotel corners and our lovely Vee vase to hold the flowers named for her.

To co-ordinate this incentive to sew, may I recommend a bunch of helpful books; they present not just ideas but step-by-step instructions. They are:

Soft Furnishings, Ideas and Fabrics by Designers Guild, Published by Fab Books, written by Tricia Guild, and a splendid guide to every sort of household whatnot—lamps, cushions, curtains and the fiendish Dorothy bag for bits.

Trianglepoint by Sherlee Lantz, published by Andre Deutsch and guaranteed to make the novice's head swim while making the Persian Throne design. £5.95.

Canvas Embroidery by Diana Springall, £10 but well worth it if you are not to mess up the nutatches or the Happy Birthday bits. Published by Batsford.

Canvas Work Stitches by May Rhodes, equally a Batsford go at your sewing box costs. 95s.

To prick your fingers if not your lazy conscience further, this indefatigable publishing house presses on with *Machine Patchwork* by Muriel Higgins at £6.95 and Ms Timmins offers *Patchwork Technique and Design*. 75s.

What a hideous price books are nowadays. I suggest that you all get together in a sewing circle and pass the copies from hand to hand. Remember that most large works of tapestry or patchwork are done by more than one; you do have to be careful, otherwise you end up quarrelling like duellists on the pedals.

But what am I saying? As an author, of course, I should recommend that you all go out and buy separate copies...

The Times Special Offer



Tapestry designed by the Royal School of Needlework to commemorate the Queen Mother's 80th birthday. It depicts her flowers—lily, rose, rhododendron, dianthus and dahlia. Worked in tent stitch, the tapestry measures 13in square and comes complete with canvas, needle, instructions and yarns in pale blue, navy blue, moss green, white, pink, red and yellow.

Diamond and white gold tiara £14,950 from Garrard and Company, The Crown Jewellers, Régent St, London, converts into a necklace when removed from the frame.

To order, please complete Money refunded if returned coupon in block letters. This offer is open to readers in the U.K. only. Normal delivery is within 28 days from receipt of order.

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Send to: Times Queen Mother Tapestry Kit, Selective Marketplace Limited, 16 Golden Square, London W1R 4BN.

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Please debit my Barclay/Access Card No.

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Allow four weeks for delivery and return within 28 days.

British Rail's listed buildings: a burden or a benefit?

To date there are in England alone nearly 270,000 listed buildings which may not be altered or demolished without statutory consent; and nearly 5,000 conservation areas within which no building of any description may be demolished without consent.

Officially, listing is only a "marker". It is not a permanent preservation order; but undoubtedly the fact that modern architecture has never been unpopular, in the strictest sense of the word, is the real reason why local amenity groups as well as national societies are militant in their opposition to the destruction of even quite mediocre listed buildings. That architects are not wholly to blame, since every culture and age gets the architecture it deserves, is a separate argument.

Systems of grant-aid are available to building owners but the sums are minuscule—compared to the size of the problem. The

Historic Buildings Council, under the aegis of Jennifer Jenkins, has, perforce, to concentrate on Grade I buildings and a few of the better Grade II. With an annual budget of only £5m the Council performs its task sensibly and sympathetically. Local authorities on the other hand, who have discretionary powers, administer planning and as though it were the Poor Law, and every listed building in its bailiwick an undeserving pauper; the dole is awarded in unimaginative cold dollops of a few hundred pounds per building regardless of the actual cost of necessary works.

British Rail, therefore, has, with gritted teeth, authorized and expended over £5m during the last two years towards the restoration of just half a dozen of its most important listed buildings; Newcastle, Hull, Paragon, Darlington, King's Cross, St Pancras, Liverpool Street. This order of finance is needed merely to repair and restore parts of such buildings and structures which are over 100 years old.

At present we own over 500 listed buildings and structures, and innumerable buildings in over 400 conservation areas. These include bridges, viaducts and ancient monuments including a Roman Governor's palace under Cannon Street station, parts of Hadrian's Wall, a fourteenth-century refectory pulpit at Shrewsbury, a Napoleonic lunette battery at Newhaven and a Hitlerian dragon's teeth tank-trap and pill-box at Christchurch.

Just because a building is

listed there is no reason to do anything; the trouble comes when one wants to do something. There are, of course, cases where the law is paramount, such as cutting back platform canopies to meet the railway inspectorate's requirements for overhead electrification; or where the civil engineer is compelled to remove a part of a building which is dangerous. There is, however, a school of thought which considers that any such contingency should solemnly be propped up until exact wrought or cast-iron reproductions can be manufactured to replace it.

On the other hand it is refreshing occasionally to hear the view of a local authority architect who gave evidence at a public inquiry (Ulverston) as follows:

"In my work across the country in conservation since 1974 I have been very conscious of the fact that in many cases conservation rather than preservation means in practice a combination of properly safeguarding the essence of a building's historic past with policies which ensure a viable use for the building for the future."

"A Daniel come to judgement. O wise young judge!"

Because he hit the bull's-eye

—only beneficial occupation of a listed building will ensure its viable future. This is the view also of the dozen of the conservation world—Dr Bernard Feilden, the director of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and

Restoration of Cultural Pro-

perty—based in Rome—who stresses the need to make a balanced synthesis of all the values in order to arrive at the best answer, but also enjoins the essential need to be

Luckily the majority of listed buildings are beneficially occupied and jog along quite happily, but there is no more certain fact of life than when the key is turned finally in the front door of an empty redundant building the inexorable process of erosion and decay begins. It is important therefore, that uses should be found for redundant listed buildings, but the growth of modern legislation relating to safety and welfare has created its own Frankenstein in the gaunt spectre of uninhabitable or unlettable listed buildings particularly in our urban areas.

In British Rail, for example, more and more we are going to be faced with the fact of large, vacant, decaying premises—substantially built I may say—over an operational ground floor in such examples as Shrewsbury Station and Lime Street Chambers in Liverpool, for which no normal acceptable use can be found.

The Secretary of State for the Environment is well aware of the problem and has intimated to planning authorities the need to be as flexible as possible—but for all that the problem will not go away, it will inexorably increase.

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Caroline Moorehead on the misplaced optimism about the industrialized world's energy resources

The 10 precarious years when the West will be most vulnerable

In 1970 a chart prepared by the Oil and Gas Journal predicted that the average annual increase in oil consumption over the following 10 years would be at 6 per cent, from 38.7 million barrels a day to 69 million. This year, demand in the free world is in fact running at 50.51 million barrels.

When the Royal United Services Institute ran a seminar on world resources in February 1978 they asked their speakers to consider, separately, minerals, energy, non-mineral raw materials and food. To regard these topics as independent one from the other would today no longer be possible. With the rise in the price of oil and the threat to its regular supply has come the realization that all the world's resources are interrelated and that all, in the end, depend on energy.

It is thus the future of energy that is interesting now, the pressures on it and the limits to which people will go to preserve it.

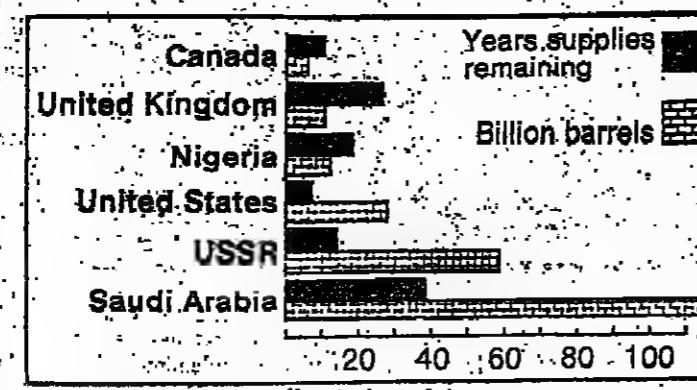
In the short term the energy picture is in fact quite good. Supplies for the remainder of 1979 appear reasonably assured with oil demand down this year by 3.5 per cent on 1978 levels and the 13 members of Opec producing an average of about 27 million barrels a day—just over half of free world demand. Stocks are at their highest in four years: about 85 days' supply compared with 69 days' in 1978.

In the long term, the picture is not so much bleak as confusing. At their most optimistic, experts envisage oil production in the non-communist world rising to about 57 million barrels a day and keeping to that level to 2010 and beyond. If this figure is accurate, enough oil remains in the ground to meet demand for the next 63 years, by which time coal, nuclear, solar and other alternative sources of energy will have been developed.

But their optimism is not widely shared. Opec in fact has reduced production by more than three million barrels a day since the autumn and their exports are likely to decline in the future, partly because of a rise in their own domestic consumption, partly in keeping with their intention of husbanding their reserves. Production by OECD countries is unlikely to grow very much in the next 10 years: about 85 days' supply compared with 69 days' in 1978.

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WORLD OIL SUPPLIES



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about one million barrels a day, is likely to become a new importer of oil by 1985.

Optimists and pessimists alike agree that the industrialized world is entering an extremely precarious phase.

'One expert,' said one expert, 'is the next ten years.' It is during the Eighties, when no alternatives to oil for energy are in full swing, when consumers are still to be convinced of the need for stringent conservation, that the economies of the West will be at their most vulnerable to any sudden disruption of supply. The potential for conflict of interest between oil companies and the environment is greater than ever before.

The problem today stems largely from the fact that despite the warnings given by the oil experts, oil prices of 1973, very little has actually been done to educate the public in the 10 years to bring on. Projects

seriously in alternatives to oil. One difficulty was that, even after the import price rose from \$2 to \$14 per barrel, oil was still cheaper than its alternatives, and this remained true for most of them until last year. The result is that the production of coal, in a state of worldwide decline over the past 20 years, has not picked up, that 60 per cent of the USA's enormous consumption of oil still goes on cars, that many planners today continue to prefer to envisage a moment when the homogeneity of Opec is broken by internequine quarrels than brush with environmentalists over the siting of new power stations.

There is, too, the fact that changing over to new sources of energy is not merely vastly expensive but extremely slow. Any energy project, not already started, may not contribute to energy before 1987 at the earliest, say the experts. Power stations take 10 years to bring on. Projects

to develop solar, wind or tidal alternatives are checked every where by the daunting size of the capital investment required.

The effect, as one oil man put it, is that 'people contemplate disaster, but privately'. Despite good stocks, the major oil companies watch their influence in the world oil market dwindling rapidly, diversify as fast as public encouragement allows, and keep a keen and wary eye on a supply picture that could change overnight.

Apart from anything else, they have already pared away at all surplus: BP, for instance, once a large crude oil trader, now have only enough for their own refining needs. Until well into the Seventies BP took 2.7 million barrels a day from three Opec members, Iran, Nigeria and Kuwait. By April this year they were getting nothing from either Nigeria or Iran. Yet no one is really willing to speculate on the implications of a further reduction in supplies. The talk is all vague, of rationing, of shared supplies, of a 'new economic order based on other sources of energy'.

Outside the oil world people are more outspoken but still prefer to pose questions. What happens, they ask, if there is a state of insurrection in Saudi Arabia and the present oil output of 9.5 million barrels a day is cut off? (Britain gets 34 per cent of its oil imports from the Middle East.) If South Africa is taken over by a régime sympathetic to the Soviet Union? (South Africa is the world's biggest producer and possesses the largest reserves of platinum, gold, vanadium and aluminium, and a second in many other minerals.) Both clearly are vulnerable.

But there are experts who believe the events of the last decade will prove immensely valuable. 'We might otherwise have headed for a major crash sometime in the Eighties. We have in fact been given time to prepare.'

lines called 'The Resource War', bewails the unpreparedness of governments in the face of the 'oil threat' and points to the weakness of Nato and the fact that the world has no understanding of the dangers.

One former high-ranking military officer talked of setting up a Commonwealth fleet to patrol the seas against pirates in search of tankers to hijack. Others brood on the choice between an American invasion of the Persian Gulf and a world recession on a scale never before contemplated.

In the United States of America, Mr John Sawhill, Deputy Secretary of Energy, speaking of the need for international cooperation, recently called for emergency planning. In this he included petrol rationing plans in case of a serious shortage (he did not spell out what might cause it) and setting up a strategic petroleum reserves of 750,000 million barrels. The United States Government, he said, had set a goal of reducing oil imports by 50 per cent by 1990.

'There comes a moment when countries become vulnerable because their dependence on imports is too great,' said one speaker at the 1978 seminar. 'The USA alone will be spending \$90,000m on imported oil this year. Britain is totally dependent on imports for its chromium, cobalt, manganese, nickel, phosphates and vanadium. Both clearly are vulnerable.'

But there are experts who believe the events of the last decade will prove immensely valuable. 'We might otherwise have headed for a major crash sometime in the Eighties. We have in fact been given time to prepare.'



Mr Nguyen Co Thach: foreign minister with a mission

Kampuchea: Vietnam read to talk at last

When Mr Edmund Muskie, the American Secretary of State, leaves Kuala Lumpur later this month after meeting foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, it is unlikely that they will be able to announce any far-reaching initiatives on Indo-China.

The visit of American secretaries of state to the foreign ministers' meeting is now a firm annual date but it is more as occasion for confirmation of mutual aims than for groundbreaking. This month's visit will be no exception. But it is felt to be even more important than usual in the capitals of ASEAN as the Vietnamese presence in Kampuchea takes on more and more the appearance of permanence. It is now 17 months since they arrived and there is no sign that the 200,000 troops they have deployed in Kampuchea is about to be reduced.

There is much talk of wavering, and not only in the West, on the ASEAN-sponsored United Nations resolution calling for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Kampuchea. The Vietnamese undoubtedly sensed that there was a lack of unity and recently sent their Foreign Minister, Nguyen Co Thach, to Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok to investigate. But the Vietnamese, while offering some new ideas of their own off the record, seem to have mistaken what that ending—desolation amongst gaiety, separation in the midst of unity, the heartbroken in counterpoint with the carefree—is as great as ever.

The casting is a masterpiece in itself. My lack of knowledge of the cinema prevents me from purring names to many of the faces playing some of the lesser parts, but there is not one that is anything but perfectly fitting. I remember particularly the old-clothes man, who moves through the film like the shadow of death (he is at Barrault's elbow, still taunting, amid the crowd in that final scene), mon paix!

Short of military action, which is both impracticable, except with outside help and on a scale that would have unpredictable consequences, there is very little that the ASEAN countries can do to reverse the Vietnamese invasion. And there is more than one vocal faction in the region which finds it entirely logical that the Vietnamese should have a friendly government in Phnom Penh. Although Phnom Penh and the Khmer Rouge remain to be reckoned with during season now sinking, when conditions are the most favourable guerrilla fighters.

But whether this combination of factors will convince Vietnamese to change anybody's guess. An attempt to predict the of recent Indochinese have proved as inaccurate as the event, as the Viet have proved resourceful. I am afraid that the will remain long after Muskie's show of so with ASEAN is over.

David

Bernard Levin

I know a classic when I see one



Shouts from the gallery in *Les Enfants du Paradis*: a film with an extraordinary history.

I have little feeling for the cinema; it is not quite the blank, invisible realm that the ballet represents for me, but I have always found that there is a gulf between the screen and me, produced (I think) by the inescapable realization that it will be exactly the same tomorrow night. Better than nothing, no doubt, but so is a gramophone record, and I would never miss a concert—or an opera—simply because I had the performance by the same artist on disc for me. The cinema is to the theatre what a record is to a live performance.

It is also, I realize, a matter of custom and upbringing. In my youth, I spent so much time at music and the theatre that something had to go, and I therefore never acquired the habit of the cinema. The result is that I see, indeed, I have seen in total, very few films, and the number of those I have seen more than once is very small indeed; most of the Marx Brothers, some classics like *Citizen Kane* and *La Femme du Boulanger*, little else. And there is only one film I have seen again and again, as *East As You Like It* or *Die Meistersinger*, and shall go on seeing, just as I shall go on seeing those I have just seen it again, and I calculate that that must make at least a dozen times in all, and probably a good few more. It is *Les Enfants du Paradis*.

Of course, there is another reason for my love of this film. I first saw it in the mid-Forties when it first appeared in Britain—and when I was an adolescent. It hit me as hard as music: I saw it three times within a matter of weeks, and once a year or so for some time thereafter. No doubt it was the film's 'romanticism' that appealed to me at that age, and no doubt the effect it had on me went so deep that it has never lost its hold, even when its romanticism did. But although such matters must be taken into account, they do not explain why I have seen it only once whose love she fully returns for him, finds again, loses for her again. Meanwhile the teeming life of the children of the gods, the play on words—"gods" (the play on words—"gods")

quality—that speaks means the theatrical gallery in directly to the human heart. French as well as English—is pure silence.

If you have never seen it (and that, it occurs to me, is an amazing way to start a sentence)—would I entertain the possibility that my readers had never seen *Figaro* or *King Lear*? I had better summarize the plot. Partly based on the life of some real characters from the Boulevard du Crime, the French popular theatre of the nineteenth century, it tells the story of a woman who is loved by five men, only one whose love she fully returns for him, finds again, loses for her again. Meanwhile the teeming life of the children of the gods, the play on words—"gods" (the play on words—"gods")

classical beauty and a laugh that could have turned the head of St Simeon Stylites.

I know the film almost by heart—indeed, there are many passages I do know by heart quite literally; certainly, as I sat in the Academy Cinema I found myself anticipating shot after shot, as I anticipated a loved phrase in an opera, a treasured line in Shakespeare, the great days of the Old Vic at the end of the war, were for the arts in Britain—a feast of colour and light and beauty and high style, after years of austerity, narrowness and dark.

The film had an extraordinary history. Marcel Carné, who directed it from a script by Jacques Prévert, began shooting in 1943, when Paris was still occupied. I have heard it said that many members of

the French Resistance are in it as part of the huge crowd scenes, which provided useful "cover" for them during the day; one of the screen credits is for a man whose contribution to the film was provided "Dans la clandestinité". It was first shown in 1945, and must have been, for France, what the great days of the Old Vic at the end of the war, were for the arts in Britain—a feast of colour and light and beauty and high style, after years of austerity, narrowness and dark.

I don't see that it ever did, and I don't see how it ever could, for the atmosphere is remarkably convincing, its truth and beauty are timeless, and even the flamboyant performance of Brasseur does not seem in the least

assured British victory by realising off correct identifications for five vintage backs of Cos d'Estournel back to 1929. The fear was reported with astonishment in the French press, and our man became a celebrity.

The owners of a leading chateau invited him as a house guest, and showed him off with pride last week to envious neighbours anxious to solicit his views of their products. Mapley, understandably, was happy to oblige. It is nice to know the French can be good losers once in a while.

Les Enfants du Paradis is justly regarded as a classic of the cinema. No cinéaste myself, such a judgment means little to me. But I know a work of art when I see one; I know poetry when I hear it; and I know truth when it is told in this fashion. I shall see the film again: many times.

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London Diary

Euro-tank down the drain

Not long ago there was great enthusiasm in Euro-circle for the establishment of a high-powered, independent think-tank—or policy research institute, to give it its fancy dress title—which would dream up clever answers to baffling Euro-problems like who should pay how much of the Community budget.

Now the scheme seems finally to have bitten the dust with the news that its principal backer, the Ford Foundation of America, has decided to withdraw its promised support, running into several million dollars, and defer the money instead to the problems of Third World countries.

It appears that the Ford trustees, who under their then chairman George Bundy first put up the idea of a European policy research institute, went off to Brussels and with some effort managed not only to get the other members of the Nine to back the scheme, serious economic thinking be-

with several million pounds of Community funds to match the Ford dollars, but also aroused the interest of at least seven other European nations, including the Spanish and the Scandinavians.

But since then the Conservative Government has sent clear signals to Brussels that it does not share the previous incumbents' enthusiasm, and all the steam seems to have gone out of the plan.

Donoughue, now with the Economic Intelligence Unit, told me yesterday that the British voice-face was rather embarrassing, as it was the British who sold the idea so strongly in the first place. They envisaged a Euro-version of the Brookings Institution in the United States, much less academic than, for example, the country's existing research institutes. So the plan was widened, and proposed for an all-European institute, not necessarily confined to the EEC.

Bernard Donoughue, Callaghan's special political adviser, went off to Brussels and with the "Community's budget", Donoughue said, "at the moment there is a vacuum in the French at their own game of splitting and guessing last year.

tween the extremes of Friedman and Waddington Benn."

But alas, in the words of the Ford trustees, "there is no present assurance that the project will come to fruition in the near future". No danger of a EEC brain-mountain this year.

It is a great pity that it has not got off the ground, particularly at a time when Europe's

mainly at a time when Europe's economic problems, like stagflation and the "Community's budget", are getting worse. The French at their own game of splitting and guessing last year.

assured British victory by realising off correct identifications for five vintage backs of Cos d'Estournel back to 1929. The fear was reported with astonishment in the French press, and our man became a celebrity.

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A Home Office mole reports a new system devised by senior civil servants there for reading the mood of their Secretary of State, William Whitelaw. It involves counting the number of times he says "Dear, dear", in reply to any remark, suggestion, news or proposal. There were fears for his life the other day when he was heard to utter no less than 21 successive "Dears".

But his staff were most understanding: the reason for his "Dear, dear" was a memo from the PM.

Porn ticket?

Under the old regime at the British Museum reading room, now part of the British Library, the celebrated collection of erotic literature was kept firmly out of sight and out of the pages of the library's official catalogue. Only those who knew of the existence of the secret cases hidden well away from view were able to consult these dangerous tomes, and only then, if they could state exactly what they were looking for, and could prove that their purpose was one of serious research.

A huge catalogue of the library's reference division is now being compiled for publication in 1984, and for the first time the forbidden fruits of erotica are to be included. Seekers after printed thrills should then be able to enjoy themselves in the key to forbidden cases.

But there is still little danger that the limited available seat will become crowded by short-sighted men in shabby raincoats. The business of obtaining a reader's ticket, never easy even in Karl Marx's day, is becoming ever more difficult as the library tries to stem the tide of intending readers knocking at its door. Even now prospective readers are discovered if the books they wish to consult are available elsewhere.

Since the average prospective reader still takes a rather carnal view of pornography



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KING MATTERS WORSE

no means clear that the Party's constitution which I from the commission of a marathon weekend of will ever be implemented. The final decisions lie party conference, which they will be determined by how the major cast their block votes. As the principal union were in the minority over kind in some of the key such will depend upon them regard the outcome stage to be accepted in etc or as a collection of each of which deserves a second time again on its the conference.

dict the outcome at this will be foolish, but it is best would be for the id the country. On the principal questions which mission has dealt with so method of electing the responsibility for the a and whether sitting would automatically have a full reselection pro before every election—let course would be to arrangements precisely as before the last party. This would mean that er would still be elected parliamentary party, that ifest would be determined by the parliamentary ip and the National Committee together—avas a large measure of authority in the hands ader—and that each MP acquire a vote of confidence he could fight the ction. Only if he failed e it would there be a election procedure. of the proposed reforms e an improvement on these arrangements. To aters worse, prolonged

OPE TRIES TO HELP

sionate reactions which ment of the Nine on the last has aroused, both in id in some American to not seem justified by reading of the text. The ave not jettisoned Council Resolution 242, contrary, it is the first of ments on which they themselves". Moreover, a specifically reaffirmed commitment to "the right to security of states in the region, Israel". All of the countries, they say, "are to live in peace within recognized boundaries", must be "accepted by all those involved—including the Palestine Liberation Organization—as the basis for negotiation of a comprehensive settlement in which all the parties will play their full part".

It was already very clearly implied that the PLO would have to be involved in such a negotiation. Now it has been made explicit. But in both cases until they are given some assurances about the type of settlement envisaged, if all parties, including Israel and the PLO, accept certain basic principles, one of which is the right of every state in the area to exist in secure and recognized boundaries. One of those states is clearly Israel. Another might be an independent Palestine state, if that were the result of Palestinian self-determination—but this point the Nine have not yet spelt out.

The New York Times correctly diagnoses the essence of the problem as being "the agonizing tension between Israeli security and Palestinian rights", and accuses the Nine of simply asserting this to be reconcilable. That too seems unfair. What the statement does is to draw attention to the fact that it has not yet been reconciled and to call for greater efforts to reconcile it. Perhaps it can yet be reconciled through the autonomy talks being held under the Camp David agreement. That seems less and less likely, but in any case it could only happen if the atmosphere of the talks were transformed in such a way as to convince the Palestinians that they represented at least a possible route to self-determination, which is what the Egyptians continue to maintain. If the mass of Palestinians became convinced of this, the PLO would have to take account of it. If representa-

constitutional wrangles would continue to divert the party from the more important task of sorting itself out for the future. Most of these changes could not be implemented until after the party conference of 1981. It is the practice for major constitutional amendments to be submitted to one conference for a vote on principle, and for the actual amendment to require a second vote the following year.

Only in the case of the proposed change for the reselection of MPs has the vote in principle already been taken. Last year's conference voted in favour of giving the NEC full responsibility for the manifesto—but what is now proposed is very different from that—and against changing the method of electing the leader. So, unless the conference were to take the improper and unforgivable course of changing the accepted practice in order to push these amendments through, the whole business would drag on until nearly the end of next year. This would have the added disadvantage of making it impossible for Mr Callaghan to retire before then without leaving his successor to be elected under the worst possible circumstances.

But though it would be much better to leave well alone, so far as these particular changes are concerned, it does not follow that all of them would represent a victory for the left. That would certainly be the case if a mandatory reselection procedure were to be introduced: the effect of this would be to make MPs more nervous of small constituency parties which can so easily be infiltrated by extremists. But it is much harder to be sure what effect the proposed electoral college would have.

The commission suggests that fifty per cent of its membership should go to the parliamentary

tive Palestinians did at some stage involve themselves in the talks; it would almost certainly be with the consent of the PLO.

The conflict will not be resolved simply by talks between Egypt, Israel and the United States, and the Camp David agreement does not say that it will. Indeed the Camp David agreement quite clearly calls for the involvement of other parties.

But other Arab parties are not willing to involve themselves until they are given some assurances about the type of settlement envisaged. If all parties, including Israel and the PLO, accept certain basic principles, one of which is the right of every state in the area to exist in secure and recognized boundaries. One of those states is clearly Israel. Another might be an independent Palestine state, if that were the result of Palestinian self-determination—but this point the Nine have not yet spelt out.

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Detention of immigrants

From the Secretary of the Magistrates' Association

Sir, Lord Avebury (June 11) suggests that courts have not read or have forgotten about Home Office Circular 133 of 1978. On the contrary, they know it well. The present law, as explained in that circular, has been a cause of concern to courts. The Immigration Act, 1971, requires that a convicted person, in respect of whom a recommendation for deportation has been made by a court, be detained in custody pending a decision on that recommendation by the Home Secretary, unless the court directs otherwise. The court has a straight choice between detention and release. No bail, securities, or conditions may be ordered on directing release.

Lord Avebury's proposal is that the onus should be reversed by providing that unless the court makes a direction that the convicted person should be held in custody pending deportation he should be automatically released. The Magistrates' Association's proposal, which may be more acceptable, is that courts should have power to release on bail and subject to conditions. This would undoubtedly enable courts to release many persons they are reluctant to release at present.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY NORMAN,
Secretary,
The Magistrates' Association,
28 Fitzroy Square, W1.
June 11.

which setting is Christ made real?"

The Church will depend upon her attachment to the promised presence of her founder, not to any particular form of words. Once more we are in danger of confusing the Word with the words. Perception of the reality of Christ in our midst, I submit, is governed by issues of far greater weight than the language used.

We sense Christ in his church, when we feel we belong with these people; when we begin to know them, when we are made aware of their concern and affection for us; when we feel we have a contribution to make among them; when we are moved by music and holiness—and silence.

Perhaps the Quakers are right after all: a no-word communion might be the end be best. But the point is that Christ can be apprehended alike in cathedral Evesham; BCP in the letter; or in a Forestry Commission bench at adventure training camp on Arran. He breaks through the confides of both fifteenth-century prose and twentieth-century banality, wherever there are two or three who try to live out of his strength.

Human beings, and churchmen, are human beings, have a huge predilection for the red herring. Were our church again to concentrate on finding Christ in this lost generation we should discover that the language question had ceased to vex us.

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD LAW,
Framlingham, Suffolk.

Christianity and sexual ethics

From Canon G. B. Bentley

Sir, Mr Longley (article, June 9) rightly calls attention to the gap between the sexual questions that vex Christians and those that vex the world, but he seems not to appreciate the quandary in which Christian moralists find themselves.

We used to believe that the moral precepts of the Bible and Christian tradition, including those touching sexual behaviour, were simply illustrative of a natural moral law accessible to human reason and could therefore be made intelligible to the conscience of man as man. Today however there appears to be no way of making them intelligible to a society in which "fornication" and "adultery" have been almost emptied of meaning.

This is a consequence of the general acceptance of contraception. The old Christian rationale of sexual morality was based on the divine and the biological function of the sexual act: as a seed-sowing operation, that act ought to be confined within marriage, which alone was capable of providing the due environment for the birth and nurture of children. But contraception has created two sexual acts, the one generative, the other sterile and of relational significance only; and no one has been able up to now to explain convincingly why the latter should not be enjoyed in other relationships beside marriage. Increasingly the aptitude for venery is being seen in common with other human aptitudes, as demanding full employment.

What is more, the link between sexual activity and seed-sowing having been ruptured, there no longer appears to be any cogent reason for limiting such activity to copulation—"the natural act", as it used to be called. If the object of the exercise is simply and solely relational, then surely whatever the parties find relationally helpful must be legitimate. The degree of "kinkiness" is a matter for mutual agreement.

The spread of these opinions in the world poses searching questions for Christians. Some apparently think that the erosion of the traditional rationale entitles us to ignore the dominical and apostolic teaching; but how can we do that without compromising our claim to the name of Christians? The choice therefore seems to lie between the Roman policy of maintaining the old rationales by rejecting contraception and discovering a new rationale that admits contraception without entailing libertinism.

But is a new rationale there to be discovered? Or must we surrender the notion that biblical sexual morality can be made intelligible to the "natural" man and set it rather as stemming from the Christian vocation to live the life of the age to come?

What is disturbing is that Christians seem to be making little sustained effort to tackle those questions. Instead we have committees and commissions toolbarely presenting reports on homosexuality while the grounds of heterosexuality remain imperfectly understood. What could be more absurd?

Yours faithfully,
G. B. BENTLEY,
8 The Cloisters,
Windsor Castle,
Berkshire.

June 9.

Wodehouse centenary

From Richard Ushorne

Sir, The Pierpont Morgan Library in New York is putting on a P. G. Wodehouse Centenary Exhibition in the last three months of next year, 1981. The birthday was October 15, 1881. I have been asked to suggest and solicit the loan of possible material from England and the Continent for this exhibition. For instance, the original artwork of the Low cartoon of PGW in the series in the New Statesman in the 1930s. I can't find it. For instance, his autograph manuscript of the lyric of the song "Bill" in "Show Boat". Does it exist? For instance, the striped umbrella, the first and only trophy Wodehouse won at golf in a hotel tournament at Aiken, South Carolina, where hitting them squarely on the meat for once, I went through a field of some of the fittest retired business men in America like a devouring flame. I believe he brought that back to England. Has it survived?

Please write and tell me if you have any Wodehouse memorabilia that you would be willing to loan to the Morgan Library if they asked you. The exhibition will probably be coming to London too.

Yours etc,

RICHARD USHORNE,
Fenton House,
Windmill Hill, NW3.

June 10.

Ruling on US hostages

From Professor Colonel G. I. A. D. Draper

Sir, In your issue of May 26 your correspondent in Amsterdam gave an opinion on the judgment of the International Court of Justice at The Hague in the case USA v Iran, delivered on May 24. Therein he stated: "In a unanimous ruling, the 15 judges of the court . . . ordered Iran to restore the embassy in Tehran to exclusive United States control and to pay compensation, the amount of which is to be determined". This is erroneous in a number of quite separate respects:

(1) The court ordered Iran "to place in the hands of the protecting power (ie, Switzerland) the premises, property, archives and documents of the United States Embassy in Tehran and of its consulates in Iran" (operative para 3 (c) of the court's decision).

(2) The payment of compensation (reparation) by Iran to the United States, as ordered by the court, was not confined to the seizure of the United States Embassy in Tehran, as suggested by your correspondent, but was in respect of the injury caused to the (United States) by what events of 4 November 1979 and what followed from these events."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A testing time for monetarism

From Professor Sir Bryan Hopkin

Sir, The foundations of belief in the present monetarist policy seem to be crumbling day by day.

Your issue of June 9 told us that Mr Terry Burns, the Government's chief economic adviser, has discovered that the workers base their wage claims not on the expected future rate of inflation but (most reprehensibly) on the actual inflation of the previous 12 months. This is not at all how they are supposed to behave in monetarist theory, where "expectations" play an essential role.

Secondly, ministers are now campaigning to persuade the unions to moderate in their wage claims for the next round. If the monetarist theory worked this should not be necessary. Ministers plainly do not believe that the inherent force of their policy of monetary restraint will succeed by itself in decelerating the inflation in an acceptable time-scale.

Thirdly, Professor Hayek (June 13) now says that "monetary reform will only work if we first curb the power of the trade unions by taking away all their present legal privileges". A country more diverse than the present or any other government is likely to embark on. If he is right, the present mix of policies cannot succeed; and if so, what is the justification for the hardships they are inflicting?

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN HOPKIN,
Aberthaw House,
Llantwit Major,
South Glamorgan.

June 13.

From Professor Lord Kaldor, FBA

Sir, Professor Hayek (June 13) has done a great service by putting his finger on the basic fallacy of all monetarist thinking: by posing the right questions, not by providing the right answers.

"I am still convinced", he says, "that as far as economic causation is concerned, the value of money is wholly determined by the magnitude of the supply of money in relation to the demand" for holding it. . . . But politically it is unfortunately true that by pushing up wages the trade unions can make it "politically necessary" to increase the quantity of money, ie, create a condition in which government believes it must do so.

The errors in this statement are that (a) it attributes power to the "Government" (in this context, presumably the monetary authorities, which means the Bank of England in conjunction with the Treasury) which under a system of credit-money (which largely consists of instant claims on non-existent cash) the authorities do

not

publish my account (which has not been challenged) on June 2. Granted we enter here on matters of judgment. I am content to be judged by the case, deployed as a whole, both in your columns and in Parliament rather than by selective quotation. Particularly relevant are the dirty tactics used by Mind on the sub judice rule forbade them to comment in public.

No must Mr. Levin be allowed to get away with the assiduously painted image of himself as having judicial impartiality. He is, we would have us believe, the Denning of Gray's Inn Road. Not so. My experience is that when journalists of rapier a highly personalised attack they at least approach their victim first to hear his side of the story. Never has Mr. Levin approached me. Yet it is clear from two references in his article that he received a favourable access and briefing from the Director of Mind. A word with me would have shown me at least of these references as inaccurate. I find this Smythe/Levin axis fascinating. It is not the first time that common cause has been made by political extremes.

No, the fact is that my use of parliamentary privilege was exercised in what I hold to be one of the highest causes open to a Member of Parliament, namely the defence of those he represents. To require him to do otherwise would destroy the very privilege which is one of our freedoms. Furthermore, it would impose on Parliament a lower standard of privilege than is enjoyed by the courts of law which interpret the laws which Parliament passes.

Charge two: That, notwithstanding this general scandal, there is some convention which requires me to repeat outside what I have said within Parliament. What nonsense. To require me would effectively destroy the very privilege which is one of our freedoms. Furthermore, it would impose on Parliament a lower standard of privilege than is enjoyed by the courts of law which interpret the laws which Parliament passes.

Charge three: That I used my parliamentary privilege in a way which was "particularly scandalous". To judge that Mr. Levin must do what he himself tells us, he refuses to do, namely to consider the merits of this particular case. I do not need to weary your readers by going over the ground again, since you were good enough to

observe that an operation undertaken in those circumstances is of a kind calculated to undermine respect for the judicial process, in international relations; and to recall that in its Order of 15 December, 1979, that Court had indicated that no action was to be taken by either party which might aggravate the tension between the two countries." However, the court went on point out that neither the legality of the operation of April 24 "nor any possible question of responsibility flowing from it, before the Court".

Neither is it the position that "the US can ask the Security Council to implement the court's ruling". Such recourse would be premature because the court decided (operative para 6) "that the form and amount of the reparation, failing agreement between the parties, shall be settled by the Court". Moreover, the dissenting opinion of Judge Morosov (USSR) indicates the probable fate of any US attempt to secure the adoption of a resolution by the Security Council giving effect to the judgment of the court.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
G. I. A. D. DRAPER.

16 Southover High Street,
Lewes,
Sussex.

June 8.

Labour policy on private schools

From Professor Tessa Blackstone

Sir, The Master of Wellington College (June 12) claims that a completely new concept would be introduced into the political life of this country if pupils from independent schools were ineligible for grants for universities. He is wrong. For many years pupils were ineligible for free places in direct grant schools unless they had attended state primary schools. If they did not, their parents had to pay full fees. This system was accepted by the schools and by parents. The same principle is now being considered by the Labour Party with effect to entry to universities. There is nothing either new or outrageous about it.

Yours sincerely,
TESSA BLACKSTONE,
Professor of Educational Administration,
University of London Institute of Education,
39 Gordon Square, WC1.

Overseas students' fees

From the Bishop of Mauritius

Sir, I have just read the account (June 6) of the parliamentary debate on overseas students' fees. Perhaps I may be permitted a comment from one of the Commonwealth countries most seriously affected by this issue?

The whole educational structure of Mauritius was built by the former colonial government on the ground plan of the English system. From secondary school level onwards English is the medium: English examinations are the gate to advancement. In a country with a population of less than one million it is obvious that university facilities cannot conceivably be provided locally to meet the needs of students who seek higher education.



COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE

June 16: The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Beaufort held a Chapter of the Most Noble Order of the Garter in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle at 12.15 o'clock.

The Queen of Denmark and The Prince of Denmark and The Grand Duke and The Grand Duchess of Luxembourg were present.

The following Knights Companions were also present: the Duke of Northumberland, the Viscount Amory, the Viscount De Lisle, V.C., the Lord Ashtorton, Sir Edmund Bacon, Bt., Captain Thackeray, the Earl of Waldensgrave, the Earl of Longford, the Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, the Lord Rhodes, the Earl of Drogheda, the Lord Shackleton, the Lord Trevethan, the Marquess of Victoria and the Marquess of Abergavenny, the Duke of Grafton, the Earl of Cromer, Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Lord Elwethy, the Lord Horn, the Right Hon. Sir Paul Hastick.

The Officers of the Order were: the Bishop of Winchester (President), the Marquess of Abercavenny (Chancellor), the Dean of Windsor (Registrar), Lieutenant-Colonel Colin Cole (Garter Principal King of Arms), Lieutenant-General Sir David House (Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod) and Mr Walter Verco (Secretary).

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon. J. D. F. Anderson and Miss A. E. Keele

The engagement is announced between John Desmond, son of Viscount Amory and Viscountess Waverley, of Aldworth, near Reading, Berkshire, and Annabel, daughter of Mrs S. G. Keele, of St Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands, and the late Mr A. S. Keele.

Mr J. M. de Lorenzo and Miss E. L. Scott

The engagement is announced between José María, only son of Señor and Señora Jaime de Lorenzo, of the Spanish Consulate, Alameda, Madrid, Elizabeth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. P. Scott, of Cambridge.

Mr G. C. Guillet and Miss C. Ora

The engagement is announced between Georges-Claude Guillet and Corinne Ora.

Mr R. A. Hughes and Miss M. H. Hellstrom

The engagement is announced between Richard Anthony, elder son of Mr and Mrs Brian Hughes, of Murray Road, Wimbleton, and Maria Helena, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. E. Hellstrom, of Pitsea, Sweden.

Mr J. C. Nathan and Miss D. G. Rubin

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, younger son of Mr and Mrs Murray Nathan, of Totteridge, London, and Donna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Joseph Rubin, of Elstree, Hertfordshire.

Birthdays today

Sir William Dale, 74; Sir Rolf Dudley-Williams, 72; the Earl of Fingall, Dr Alan Christopher St Peter Le Cheminant, 60; the Very Rev Lord Macleod of Culinary, 55; Mr Stewart Perowne, 79; Miss Beryl Reid, 60; Sir Eric Sisson, 66; Major-General Sir Cecil Smith, 84; Mr Brian Statham, 50; General Clarence Wiseman, Salutary Army, 75.

Today's engagements

Princess Alexandra visits Royal Highland Show, Ingleton, near Edinburgh, 11.30.

Lectures: British orchids, Joyce Pope, British Museum (Natural History), 3. New Jewelry movement, Shirley Bury, Victoria and Albert Museum, 1.15.

Walks: A London Village, Hampstead, meet Hampstead Underground station, 11; 1600s, Great Plague and Great Fire, meet Tower Hill station, 7.30.

Concert: The Trumphant, recital, St Martin-in-the-Fields, 1.05. Aleksander Kaczynski, Rachmaninov, Albeniz, Purcell Room, South Bank Arts Complex, 7.30.

Flower show: RHS Early Summer Show, RHS Hall, Vincent Square, 11-6.

Latest wills

Mr Eiles Sherwood, of Bourne mouth, above referred, left estate valued at £159,443 net. After personal bequests he left the residue equally between the Soroka Medical Centre, Beersheba, Israel, the Chabad Lubavitch Yeshiva School, Jerusalem, Ruth Eliazah Shabot, of Beersheba, and Bar Ilan University, Israel.

Miss Ethel Pinckard, Clark, of Brockenhurst, Hants, left estate at £174,200 net. She left £20,000 and effects to her legatees, and three parts of the residue to the Christian Alliance of Women and Girls, two parts each to the British and Foreign Bible Society and the Scripture Union, and one part to the Wives' Association, Lyndhurst.

Other estates include (net before tax paid, tax not disclosed): Edmund, Mr Robert Artold, of Kendal, £162,442.

Corry, Mr James Graham, of Luton ... £633,581.

Church news

Bishop to retire

The Bishop of Kensington, the Right Rev Ronald Goodchild, is to retire at the end of October at the age of 70.

Appointments

The Rev J. D. Andrews, Vicar of Lichfield, to be priest-in-charge of Chesney and Esholt, same diocese.

The Rev. Mr. A. Bardey, curate of York, to be priest-in-charge of St. Edmund, Bedford, diocese of St Albans, to be priest-in-charge of St. Edmund, Bedford, same diocese.

The Rev. Mr. C. Birchby, Master of St Edmund's College, Cambridge, and Shobdon, diocese of Hereford, to be Rector.

The Rev. Mr. A. Britton, Vicar of St. Edmund's, Cambridge, and Shobdon, diocese of Hereford, to be Rector.

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Recession
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agenda,
page 19

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e 19.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Stock Markets

F-100 up 1.11
F-Gilt 69.58 up 1.17

Erroling
3410 down 10 pts
dex 73.9 up 0.3

Dollar
dex 83.1 up 0.1
4.7660 up 115 pts

Oil
95 down \$12.

Couney
mt sterling 161.161
mt Euro-S 818.91
mt Euro-S 818.91

N BRIEF

trieved
d wins
m order
platform

Former Marathon oil rig
ation yard at Clyde-
run by the French
UIE company, has
order for a new £17m
platform. The yard
shut down 14 months
the contract will mean
jobs there are secure
at 14 months.

Indemnity of the
for Pernago, a
drilling company, was
the launch of a drilling
for Saipem AG, an
ompany.

Its Bass chairman of
negotiations were also
with a number of
customers about
orders.

were "strong expecta-
tions" the yard would
additional orders for
a offshore work.

chief resigns

ndon Huxford, group
director of MK Elec-
tions, has resigned and
board after disagree-
the group's direc-
possible moves into
His departure coinci-
the publication of the
nts which expect 16
its fall.

Financial news, page 20

laries concern

It was voiced yester-
the Association of
of State Industry over
the difficulties
ould be caused if the
ent parades back the
ended increases made
test report of the Top
Review Body, to well
the current level of in-

quiry

ffice of Fair Trading
d yesterday that it
n holding discussions
L, Britain's leading
manufacturer, after
use of ICL trading
a number of com-
statement by ICL is
later this week.

storage plan

Duffryn, in partner-
Dow Chemical the
company, is to spend
15m, over two years
bulk liquid storage
at Powell Duffryn's
at Bayonne, New-
the United States.

or Oxirane

ic Richfield, the oil
is paying \$270m
to buy the 50 per cent
it did not already
in Halcon International.
was set up as a joint
between the two in-

ncial news, page 20

oil price

which supplies three
United States oil
ay decide to raise oil
ithin a few weeks.

street higher

New York Stock Ex-
the Dow Jones indus-
closed 1.36 points
7.73. The dollar against
IR was -1.32344. The
was 0.565597.

PRICE CHANGES

Stiles	14p to 42p
St. Herts	22p to 22p
Hills	25p to 34p
St. Tel	14p to 85p
12p to 33p	

ham	7p to 20p
ld Fields	5p to 47p
Mining	10p to 14p
65p to 85p	
12p to 75p	

THE POUND		
Bank	Bank	
boys	boys	
2.05	2.01	
Sch	30.45	
Fr	69.00	
Kr	1.65	
Mkt	13.15	
MMK	8.82	
Fr	9.85	
y DM	4.27	
102.00	97.00	
11.65	11.20	
Pd	1.13	1.02
ar	1990.00	1900.00
525.00	500.00	
ands Gld	4.68	4.45

Foundry group dismisses 700 workers in reply to union sanctions campaign

By Clifford Webb
Midlands Industrial
Correspondent

Birmid Qualcast, the Midland-based foundry group, has sent immediate dismissal notices to nearly 700 of the 900 employees at its Birmerdale plant in Quinton, and announced plans to close the site after a two-month confrontation with workers. The remaining 200 are to be made redundant.

The management's reply to a long campaign of go-slow and save-the-jobs has sparked off a bitter dispute with the unions. Last night Mr Ron Marston, regional organiser of the Transport and General Workers' Union said: "The first thing we knew of this was when our members received immediate dismissal notices from the company on Friday. The unions received no communication from the company at all."

"Many of our people believe Birmid is using the dispute to close the place down and avoid paying redundancy money. If the company is in financial difficulty, why were we not consulted? We have been very helpful to firms which have taken us into their confidence in similar circumstances."

Managers came to a head in April when manual workers imposed sanctions in support of a 20 per cent pay claim. The most telling action was a blockade on all products leaving the plant, which makes wrought alloy parts for the motor, aircraft



Mr Brian Fitton (left), deputy chairman, and Mr James Insch, chairman, taking a hard line at Birmid Qualcast.

and general engineering industries.

Six weeks ago, the management, led by Mr James Insch, chairman, laid off nearly 700 hourly paid workers for refusing to resume normal working. The men claimed it was a "lockout".

Last night a company spokesman said that hourly paid workers received a 15.5 per cent pay increase in August and it was "quite impossible" to entertain a further claim for 20 per cent from April 1 this year. He said that before industrial action took place, management had consistently expressed its willingness to discuss a pack-

age with union representatives, including a pay award and a voluntary scheme to become effective from the company's annual settlement date of August 1.

The refusal to send out redundancy notices had made it increasingly impossible for the company to carry on, he added. It would be in talks with the relevant unions on redundancy terms for the remaining 200 or so employees.

A work-force meeting yesterday voted to take no action for the time being to enable full-time union officials to seek a meeting with the company. Another meeting has been called for Thursday.

Mr Norton said that before industrial action took place, management had consistently expressed its willingness to discuss a pack-

Unions agree Shotton redundancy terms as Lonrho shows interest

By R. W. Shakespeare
Northern Industrial Correspondent

Broad agreement has been reached between the British Steel Corporation and steel industry unions on the terms under which nearly 900 more workers will lose their jobs at the Shotton steelworks on Teeside over the next two weeks.

The final large-scale redundancies at Shotton where about 7,000 workers have already lost their jobs through the shutdown of iron and steelmaking and hot rolling operations—mean that by the end of this month the workforce in the remaining cold-finishing plant will have been cut by 873 to 3,356.

The deal between BSC and the unions includes a percentage bonus increase for the workers who remain.

Although the basis of the deal has now been agreed after many weeks of negotiations a number of issues are still unresolved, including the question of overtime—which management wants to abolish—and the controversial issue of introducing "clocking on".

The Shotton plant is the subject of a detailed report, drawn up by Mr Derek Norton, chief executive of Lonrho's engineering division which owns the Rotherham private steelworks at Sheffield.

Mr Norton and other Lonrho officials have been to Shotton to make a private inspection of the facilities and there have been suggestions that the company might be considering making a bid for the plant.

Lonrho is said to be ready to welcome other private entrepreneurs to join in a Teesside venture.

flouted in the press by British Steel, but the steel plant, including the finishing end is only worth about £2m in scrap."

Nevertheless, Mr Norton appears convinced that a private management team could make a success of running the Shotton operations and that about 2,000 jobs could be recreated.

"We are so confident that we would take it on an ex gratia basis. If we did not make money, don't pay us. If we make money, give us a share of the profits."

Mr Norton also said that whoever committed the nation to the Shotton finishing operations in their present form must have been "wrong in the head".

Lonrho is said to be ready to welcome other private entrepreneurs to join in a Teesside venture.

Encouraging signs as TUC takes a closer look at Sir Keith's proposals

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

A government policy which concentrates on improving the overall economic climate rather than on supporting specific industries, won some sympathy from the TUC at yesterday's National Economic Development Council meeting.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, said that they could frustrate desirable changes by prolonging uneconomic activities.

In his view there was no direct action the Government could take to help industry to become more competitive, to adapt to consumer needs or to become more profitable.

The TUC is to submit its views on the policies outlined by Sir Keith in writing. Considering the deep ideological gulf between the TUC and the Government it was considered encouraging by NEDC observers that the policies were not immediately rejected.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, agreed with Sir Keith that there was a dilemma between "picking winners" and "spraying money around" in the application of state aid.

At least three aspects of the policies outlined by Sir Keith are likely to be regarded as olive branches by the TUC. One

is a promise that the Government intends to promote the use of public purchasing as a means of making British industry more competitive.

Details of how this can be done are likely to be discussed at next month's NEDC meeting.

However, Sir Keith may be looking to France which is using its state-owned telephone service to spearhead an ambitious programme aimed at making the country the world leader in products which combine the use of computer and telephone, as an example.

A second area of possible consensus is the acknowledgement that special assistance is needed for overseas interests, particularly mobile projects to be based in the United Kingdom.

While the Government, through the EEC and the organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), is seeking to abolish such special investment incentives. We had to accept that our chances of securing international mobile projects to be based in the United Kingdom.

A perceptible trend towards across-the-board policies of government support was observed on the comment. Mr Geoffrey Chandler, director general of NEDC said that there has been a definite shift from negative policies aimed at promoting the occupational and geographical mobility of labour.

A reduction in the cost of government support was observed on the comment. Mr Geoffrey Chandler said: "There has been a definite shift from negative policies aimed at promoting the occupational and geographical mobility of labour.

It was recognized that powerful lobbies often led to spending money on "picking up" between the CBI and the TUC shortly,

Big slump in demand and strength of sterling result in £3.6m pretax loss at Lesney

By Richard Allen

Lesney Products, the troubled Matchbox toy group, yesterday revealed a fall into pretax losses of £3.6m in the year to the end of January.

This compares with a previous profit of £1.5m and provides further evidence of the crisis in the toy industry, which in more extreme form contributed to the collapse of Duber Combez Marx, a rival group.

Interest charges alone last year absorbed £5.5m as borrowings soared to finance stocks stranded by an unexpected fall in demand during the crucial 1979 Christmas selling season.

end of the last financial year, it is to step down in favour of Mr Gordon Hay. Mr Maurice Alberge is to become finance director.

Mr Smith, who is to remain chief executive, said last night that the appointment of the two new directors was designed to strengthen the board.

Details of the group's borrowings would not be available before the annual report due next month, he added, although it is thought that debt doubled to around £42m last year.

Lesney has also announced details of its management reshuffle. Mr Leslie Smith, acting chairman since the departure of Mr Paul Tapscott at the

end of Midland, are fully in touch".

"We are very, very confident about the trading future. We have now turned off the production tap and we are confident that we can reduce our stocks and borrowings to bring the group back into a strong trading position by the year-end."

Lesney was also hard hit last year by the strength of sterling—the group exports around 80 per cent of its production and sells in Japan and West Germany.

The group's shares fell 2p to 15p yesterday on the announcement.

Hauliers in protest at training board

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

Road Hauliers are seeking an urgent meeting with Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Employment, over the "intolerable" situation of the Road Transport Industry Training Board.

They complain of being forced to pay increasing levies to the board for training which they regard as largely superfluous and which, in many cases, competes with their own training programmes.

The board, which provides training for drivers, apprentices and managers in the road transport industry, is one of the largest of the government-inspired industry training boards. It was dissolved in Parliament recently that Mr Eric Tindall, the board's chief executive, was the highest-paid of the board chiefs with inflation-proof £22,000-a-year salary.

In a letter to Mr Prior, Mr George Newman, director-general of the Road Haulage Association said "dissatisfaction within the RTITB has reached the point where the position should be brought urgently to the attention of the Government".

It sought "a government initiative to rectify an increasingly intolerable situation", Mr Newman said.

The RHA has called for a full examination of the RTITB's financial and administrative arrangements and for a reduction of its function to a purely advisory service to the industry.

"While road haulage companies are compelled to reduce expenditure in order to survive, the board not only receives higher levy income as a result of annual wage increases but also remains seemingly immune from any of the financial restrictions or pressures the industry is facing," the memorandum says.

"The board uses levy money to meet the cost of inflation-proof salaries for a large number of its staff, to increase the amount spent on administration and to enlarge the emergency fund. It is, in our view, totally wrong for employers to be denied what is in effect their own money which is needed for vital training".

The RHA complains that both the board creates difficulties both at paying grants to companies which carry out training and exempting others from paying levies on the ground that they carry out adequate training of their own.

The result is that, at a rate of two per cent, transport has almost the lowest exemption rate of any industry, though about 70 group training schemes are operated by companies in the organization.

The RTITB is accused of unnecessary duplication of resources and setting up activities in competition with the industry's own companies which contribute funds to establish these activities and whose own training was granted from the funds.

The drilling, boring and milling machine business at Lutterworth is also being sold. These are made under licence from DeVlieg, an American company, which has agreed to take over the operation.

Discussions are now taking place for the sale of Herbert's Mackadow Lane plant in Birmingham.

The board, which has a staff of nearly 900 and spends £39m a year, declined to comment last night. It hoped to consider the RHA allegations later this week, a spokesman said.



Photograph by Jonathan Player

Airline protest: British Caledonian employees staged a protest yesterday against the Government's threat to withdraw the airline's newly won licence to operate on the London to Hong Kong route. Off-duty pilots, air host



7,000 face redundancy at AEG Telefunken

AEG Telefunken will reduce its domestic workforce by 7,000 in 1980 from 125,000 at the end of 1979, Herr Heinz Duerk, the chairman, told *Der Spiegel*. He said further reductions would be inevitable in future years in areas where microelectronics is gaining a foothold.

The introduction of electronic typewriters, which take half as long to produce as electro-mechanical typewriters, had made substantial redundancies or short time working inevitable, he added.

Herr Duerk did not rule out the possibility of cooperation with some other company or even the sale of the Telefunken division.

Tourist spending

An estimated 15 million West Germans will travel abroad this year—about 20,000m DM more than the foreign tourists will spend in West Germany in the same period, according to the German Banking Association.

World Bank lending

The World Bank is expected to lend \$1,200m (512.8m) to developing countries for oil and gas exploration per year by fiscal 1983. Mr Bernard Chabouté, the bank's vice-president, said in Easton, Maryland.

Airline lay-offs

United Airlines will lay off 360 pilots by the end of this year and 800 flight attendants in September, because of an anticipated decline in passenger traffic, the company announced in Chicago.

Loan for Poland

Italy will extend an additional \$360m (£153.8m) credit line to Poland primarily to finance imports of Italian industrial equipment, Italian officials said in Rome.

£190.8m trade gap

The overall balance of payments deficit in the Belgian-Luxembourg Economic Union widened to 12,500m Bfr (£190.8m) in February from 8,200m Bfr the previous month.

Tokyo-Iran talks

Amir Nasser Koohyar, Iran's representative for a joint (Japan-Iran petrochemical) project, has arrived in Tokyo for talks with his counterpart on the \$3,300m (£141.6m) complex on the Persian Gulf.

£5.731m energy search

The Japanese government plans to spend 2,900,000 yen (£5.731m) in its search for alternative energy sources like geothermal development, coal and wind power in the next decade to reduce drastically the nation's dependence on oil.

Consumer resistance to wooden-based homes gradually being overcome

Rise of the timber frame house

While construction industry leaders fight against further public spending cuts in the corridors of Whitehall and Westminster, radical changes are taking place on Britain's building sites.

Five years ago, the number of timber frame (not to be confused with timber clad) homes built was negligible. Last year, the accounted for about 15 per cent of all houses built, and the most recent forecasts suggest that by 1982 more than half of all new homes will be timber frame. The timber frame replaces the inner skin of exterior walls and the conventional load-bearing block partition walls.

Even the British Woodworking Federation admits that it is surprised by the pace with which timber frame homes have become popular. Over the years proponents of the system have worked hard to overcome consumer resistance which has focused on fears that timber frame buildings were less permanent than conventionally built homes and were a greater fire risk.

The federation believes that these "myths" have now been dispelled—and it points to the readiness with which building

societies will now advance mortgages on timber frame homes.

But the switch, supported by companies like Wimpey, Barratt and Waites, has come about because the industry has found the financial arguments compelling.

On-site labour costs and potential problems can be significantly reduced. Not only are skilled bricklayers, and other craftsmen expensive, they are also difficult to recruit (why this should be when so many construction workers are jobless remains a mystery). Timber frame building reduces the amount of brickwork required by up to 50 per cent.

Because timber frames can be brought to sites ready assembled, building time can be cut by about three quarters to as little as five weeks. For the builder it means that cost calculations are less vulnerable to inflation; there is greater design flexibility; programmes are less likely to be disrupted by bad weather and completions can be matched to sales targets.

If costs can be contained there is the possibility of cheaper homes. But timber frame construction brings other benefits to the buyer. Because it is "dry," decorating can be carried out almost immediately.

The woodworkers also claim that there

are energy savings. Brick and block-making require a lot of energy. Timber frames can reduce heat loss through walls by up to a half and the federation claims that if all homes were timber frame savings of up to £10,000m on Britain's fuel bill could be achieved over the next 20 years.

Mr Peter Shapcott, the British Woodworking Federation's director, says that timber frames are taking a much bigger share of a much reduced market. Not many more than 160,000 homes or all types will be built this year against 220,000 in 1979. But, he says, "timber frame will be the building style of the 1980s. As soon as the mortgage and economic situation eases and the housebuilding programme improves, timber frame building is bound to show a significant surge."

Savory Millin, the London brokers, agree. In a study published recently they suggested that, while timber companies might benefit, losers could include brick making groups and block makers.

Sadly, most of the timber is imported. So to the losers in the timber frame revolution must also be added Britain's balance of payments.

John Huxley

Anger over British monopoly of cheap North Sea chemicals

By John Rudey

British-based petrochemical companies have been accused of combining to ensure that "outsiders" are prevented from gaining access to cheap North Sea feedstocks.

The General and Municipal Workers' Union has criticized multinational companies who oppose plans by American "outsider" Dow Chemical to set up an ethylene cracker at Nigg Bay on the Cromarty Firth.

Mr David Warburton, national industrial officer of the GMWU, says that the companies prove they are "defenders of a sectional monopoly interest, unfit to handle the strategic decisions which face the industry" by lobbying against the proposals.

In a policy statement on the use of North Sea feedstocks, liquid gases, Mr Warburton

says that if sanctioned, they would mean a £500m investment, the creation of thousands of jobs in construction and many in the chemicals sector.

Most important of all, it would boost the United Kingdom's ethylene capacity and our ability to exploit to the maximum extent secure feedstock supplies.

Government sanction for the plan should, of course, make participation in supplies from the new (gas gathering) pipeline conditional upon the construction of an ethylene plant at Nigg Bay, rather than the export of natural gas liquids to the Continent", Mr Warburton said.

Dow's proposals, which remain tentative, depend upon access to gas liquids through a North Sea gas-gathering pipeline system. A decision to go

ahead with such a system, at a cost of up to £2,000m, is expected to be made soon.

British-based petrochemical companies such as Shell Chemicals, BP Chemicals, and ICI have made their concern the Dow plan well known in Government circles. Their unease arises partly from potential overcapacity for production of ethylene.

Yesterday, industry management and union leaders had discussions with Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry. They told him that last opportunity to cut back on imports.

A report produced by the National Economic Development Office, says that if imports continue to rise and exports to stagnate, Britain's share of the EEC plastics market will be well below available capacity.

They say that such a policy would mark a return to the "stop go" measures of previous administrations.

Builders oppose cash 'freeze'

By Our Industrial Staff

A cash "freeze" on local authority construction would sound "like the death rattle of the Government's economic policies", Mr Kenneth Cooper, director general of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers (NFBTE), said yesterday.

Steps being considered by the Government were indicative of panic, he said, and to consider such a moratorium was a confession of defeat.

The NFBTE and the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors (FCEC), have written to the Prime Minister expressing their alarm at reports confirmed by ministers, that a moratorium is being considered to keep down public spending.

They say that such a policy would mark a return to the "stop go" measures of previous administrations.

London Transport's travel incentive scheme

From Mr L. J. Watmore

Sir, I am not sure if I fully understand London Transport's travel incentive scheme, but if it means that when companies buy large enough to buy more than 25 season tickets for their employees, then the cost of those tickets will be reduced substantially, and the employees themselves made benefit by a tax free perk, I ask the following questions:

1. Since London Transport is publicly owned, how can it be right that two commuters will be asked to pay totally different fares, according to whether they work for a large or a small business (and the former enjoy a tax free perk); in the bargain?

2. Is this yet another blow to small businesses and the self-employed in that they will not only pay the full fare, but will inevitably need to subsidize by

increased fares the body of fellow workers who, by accident of employment, are getting their travel on the cheap?

3. Will small businesses (ie with fewer than 25 employees) be at a disadvantage vis-a-vis larger employers that they will be unable to offer the same travel-tax advantage as the larger companies?

4. Is London Transport's motive for introducing this scheme to convert more workers to train travel, or is this a means of muting the public outcry when the next substantial increase in fares is announced?

Yours faithfully,

L. J. WATMORE,
39 Warren Avenue,
Bromley,
Kent.
June 9.

No danger in EEC draft directive on advertising

From Mr G. Scott

Sir, In today's edition of *The Times* (June 13) Mr Victor Ross, president of Mail Order Publishers, is reported as saying that the EEC draft directive on misleading advertising is "potentially dangerous" and in any event contravenes Article 189 of the EEC Treaty.

The provision he objects to is that complainants against misleading advertising should have better access to the courts. What is potentially dangerous about this? Article 189 is alleged to "preclude a directive from specifying the means by

which member states achieve its objectives". But the draft directive does not say exactly how access to the courts is to be provided. That is indeed left to the member states.

The pattern followed can be paralleled in many other directives, some of which are in fact more detailed in their provisions. It certainly does not contravene Article 189.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE SCOTT,
Head of UK Offices,
Commission of the European
Communities,
20 Kensington Palace Gardens,
London W8 4QQ.
June 13.

Oil surplus benefits for all

From Mr K. G. Hodges

Sir, I was intrigued to see by article by John Grieve under the title "How surpluses could help". It was not quite clear what the debts of the industrial sector were to be indexed higher rate than inflation in order to compensate for the costs of indexing of the surpluses. I assume that this was intended, otherwise the proposed fund could not be built up in real terms.

It is interesting to see what might be the cause of such a distortion of the market mechanism. Taking much over-simplified we might expect the following:

1. The oil countries have an incentive to increase output, or at any rate, not to cut back, because oil is no longer sold at the prices of sell.

2. The industrial countries have an incentive to increase oil deficits, the money debt is no longer a depreciation currency. This might be done by either:

a) Increased efficiency use of power or other factors.

b) Reduced consumption.

3. The developing countries have an incentive to increase oil deficits. The inc resources available could be used:

a) To increase exports of their own products, for example, food.

b) To buy more goods, industrial countries.

c) To buy capital goods to build up their own industrial capacity.

I refrain from indicating whether any one of these sequences is advantageous otherwise since the answer depends on your philosophy which group you belong to. Furthermore the whole issue is far more complex than anything I have suggested.

Yours faithfully,

K. G. HODGSON,
Oak End,
Tye Green Village,
Harlow,
Essex.
June 11.

Low productivity and management overmanning

From Mr Michael Ivens

Sir, You report (June 13) Mr Roy Close, director-general of the British Institute of Management, as calling for "some kind of forum in which public debate can indicate the parameters for responsible action".

This should be rejected, and not only for the use of the same and fashionable word "parameters". Since the war British managers have probably belonged to more associations and participated in more conferences and forums than any

other managers in the world. It will be unkind and not completely accurate to suggest that there is a correlation between this and Britain's low productivity and high over-manning.

But surely the penny has dropped and British managers must realize that their job is to get on and produce results?

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL IVENS,
Director,
40 Doughty Street,
London WC1N 2LF.
June 13.

It would be enlightening to know where the delay occurs. Is it in sorting offices in England? Is it at London Airport?

I am certain that the delay is not attributable to the Swiss post office since my experience with the internal mail service in Switzerland is that delivery from one point to the other country to any other is invariably accomplished in less than a day.

Yours sincerely,

ANTHONY VANDYK,
14 rue Marignac,
1206 Geneva,
Switzerland. June 13.

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Yours sincerely,

R. CLEARY
Lecturer,
18 Park Street,
Winton, Dorset,
Dorset,
S. E. Humberstone,
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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

A boost now from the trade figures

ay's trade figures were just the sort of encouragement financial markets looking for to keep the recent upsurge strong. After April's £214m deficit, turning into a surplus of £32m on the account, and the trade balance a similar trend with April's £264m shrinking to £18m in May, the surest sign that the economy is in the way financial markets want comes in the import figures with down 4 per cent in the March to June period compared with the three months

d the underlying picture looks better with the restocking after the like estimated to have had an adverse effect of £10m in May after a broadly impact in the first three months.

The gilt-edged market has shrugged week's disappointing banking figures suggested that the authorities have m for manoeuvre on interest rates early exhaustion of the long tap y provided a solid foundation for the board rises.

Very well have been a certain of the herd instinct among fund s worried about losing out in the of the last two weeks in yester .1 point rise to 467.6 in the FT-30 index but there is no doubt that have convinced themselves they through the tribulations of the next so more clearly than even a few to.

he
wire

losses of £3.6m (against profits of was worse than expected and the another 2p to 15p which is some w the year's high. Moreover, it is fraction of last year-end's stated share asset value (now presumably plotted) and provides a fair indica he extent of the market's recovery

holders will now have to wait for report to see how badly Lesney is ravaged by the stock build-up allowed the group's failure to cut production quickly enough when virtually collapsed in the second-

is clear that interest charges to £5.6m last year and it is apparent rowings have doubled to around ere they now exceed shareholders'

testion now is whether the extremes of the toy industry are close to overcome and whether a strengthened ent team at Lesney, having brought to a near standstill, can runts quickly by selling into a hope- rving retail market.

looks optimistic. There is little sign ture has come with high interest aring customers from ordering and strength putting particular pres- export groups like Leaneys.

the side of speculators is the fact they have survived toy industry s like this before that its bankers reutly lending full support and that

Matchbox product is still a name- ckoned with (although competition die-cast market particularly from producers has become fierce).

other hand the fact that would-be or assets of the collapsed Dunbee Marx group have yet to materialize, appear to rule out hopes of a bid an early end to Lesney's current

'OS
ing profits
le pace

of its results yesterday Hambros ad been among the best performers strong merchant banking sector. profits figures were comfortably pper end of the market's expecta- After tax and extraordinary items are up from £11.9m to £12.1m r to the end of March but the marginal increase conceals some ng swings and roundabouts.

Business Diary: Postcard from Japan

upon the Tokyo-Kyoto en, the 120 mph bullet ved to be as good a way f seeing Japan old and

pose me in the Green class coach, a gauzy n shimmering over his ibes, was a Buddhist here he sat in fastidiously, framed by a through which the outside was taking tableau vivant of the emical Japan.

a group of 40 or so and a few ladies in dress were apparently in a bowing maratho explanation, said my companion, lay with young tycoon-type and ant, raven-haired heartly beautiful lady—who it I could see over the shoulder, were evidently: the rest.

crowd, said my com- had turned out to see tycoon, their superior, evidently leaving for f-town posting.

was no mystery about situation of the monk e ours, it had to be which has about 1,500 and shrines. As for the it could have been arsu, home of Yamaha bikes and musical instru- a little farther down Nagoya, and the fac Toyota, Japan's biggest

I will never know,

for nosey as I am, I did not ask because it was more fun to speculate. Whatever it was, it looked like our man would do it superbly well.

"Is this how you say goodbye to your superior in Britain?" asked my companion. For a moment I did not answer, lost in reverie at the effect on commuters at Waterloo of seeing 40 odd Times journalists bowing one a superior. "Er, not quite . . . I began.

Kyoto

My bemusement at being in Kyoto at all was compounded by the half-bottle of Château Mercier set before me in the Joy Grill of the Kyoto Hotel.

Despite the resonant label (*Mercier dépose Recolte de la qualité*) the wine in fact came from up the road and from the surrounding Mount Fuji ("the Bordeaux of Japan").

I was struggling to assimilate this fact, when into the restaurant walked two European men, who from their English suits and Gallic struts I took to be French.

They sat down, ordered dinner and to my mounting glee, a bottle of house wine, Kyoto Hotel (another Mercier). In vain did I wait for them to be struck shrill as they tested the wine, and after a decent interval, I introduced myself and sought their opinion of "the Bordeaux of Japan".

They were both chemical company men, who declined to say what they were up to in

this, a big ceramic-making and kimono-dyeing town. The more talkative of the two lived in Grasse, but came from Arles, and so spoke glowingly of Château de la Pope and Gignac.

But he was not at all dis- misive of the local "Bord- saux." "Ah," said he, "ce n'est un vin honorable; ce n'est un grand vin honorable, maid c'est un petit vin honorable."

My Château Mercier reminded me not of the slopes of Bordeaux but of the slopes of the Troodos mountains of Cyprus, or indeed of the Gray's Inn Road. In both of which places I have come to know the Cyprus reds. Othello in particular.

At this point, however, my Frenchman turned from wine and on a peasant for strong government and Mrs Thatcher, both of which I was grateful to be missing for a few weeks. Thus, as they say in the trade, I made an excuse and left.

"*Mis en bouteille dans nos caves à Yamanishi*, indeed.

Suzuka

Two questions of mine made Tokinori Soga laugh when I called at the Honda plant here, west of Tokyo. One was "How many hours do you work?" and the other "What discount do you give staff who buy a car from the company?"

To the first, Soga, the production manager, replied:

"When things are going well, I can relax, and to the second "Just a little".

From this I deduce that he has not relaxed much for a while, particularly since Suzuki, the firm's biggest factory, has just completed retooling of its No 2 production line to up production of Civic cars by a quarter to 1,000 a day making a total of 2,200 a day by the end of the year.

On discount I take this to mean that they can sell every car they make in the open market. Honda, which started later than the two big boys, Toyota and Nissan (Datsun), had to head for the export market, and sells about two thirds of production abroad.

With figures like this (a car made every 43 seconds) Honda does not have to go in for niceities—they met me at the station with a Toyota cab.

A third thing that made Soga smile that day: an exhibition in the foyer of trophies and Honda motor bikes. It represented a win the previous day on the Honda's Suzuki race track for the works team, who beat Yamaha employees on Yamaha bikes.

I don't know whether it was a case of drinking too much Château Earthquake or not enough, but the fact is that in wandering around Kyoto I became afflicted by a constant

Hugh Stephenson

A dreadful waste of energy

There are only a limited number of hours in the day in which people can work creatively. Given this tedious truism, an outsider might suppose that those in charge of an organization like the British National Oil Corporation should be encouraged to devote those hours substantially, if not exclusively, to conducting and planning the affairs of the corporation to the best of their ability.

On the other side, it might be expected that the Secretary of State for Energy and his hard pressed officials would concentrate their finite talents on the important problems of British energy policy, like the future of nuclear power, or the continuing problems of the coal industry and electricity generation.

To such an outsider it might therefore seem surprising to learn that in the past year so much time has been spent by both groups on an issue that seemed to be causing no particular problem, namely the future of the BNOC.

All the available evidence points to the fact that the BNOC works perfectly well in its own terms and as an actual (or potential) instrument of government oil policy. The modifications to the way in which the corporation operates that were introduced when the

present Government came to office seem to have had the effect of removing most, if not all, of the irritants to the rest of the oil industry. There is very little evidence of any pressure from the BNOC on the arrangements for the operation of the BNOC from any quarter, except from within important parts of the Government itself.

The Prime Minister and her Secretary of State for Industry seem to take the view that it is doctrinally offensive for a state owned commercial body to exist, unless on the basis of some overriding reason of national interest, as in the case of say, Rolls-Royce, which would be bankrupt if not underwritten by the Exchequer.

The result has been a year during which large numbers of highly paid and talented people have been involved in a process of series kind with giant state monopolies and near-monopolies, like the Post Office or the British Steel Corporation, similar arguments do not apply to BNOC.

On the ramparts and in the trenches, the fortunes of the defenders have swung this way and that. It may be too early to say that the assault has definitely failed, but it looks increasingly as if the Government will decide to be content with the very limited degree of "privatization" that the BNOC offers to shareholders.

As the 1973-74 oil crisis demon-

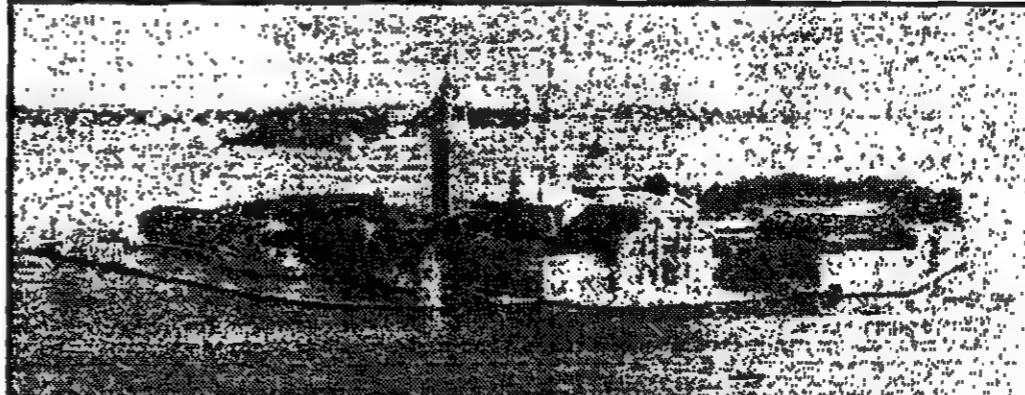
strated, the national interest and the interest even of a British-based oil company by no means always coincide. The fact is that the BNOC trading operations in public hands bring into Government with the only tool of oil policy available to it, short of a situation in which it was prepared to take emergency powers and impose direc-

tions. The realization that the trading arm was important led to the proposal that the BNOC might be divided, with the other aspects of its activities being the vehicles for the injection of private equity capital. But even here, there would be a strong argument for any organization like the BNOC which is totally committed to finding oil in British territorial waters.

For the moment the whole of the world's oil industry is giving the North Sea top priority, because of its quality and the friendly fiscal and political regime behind it. But this may not always be the case.

Above all, however, as the world oil scene becomes more complicated and less stable, it must make sense to have an additional horse to BP and Shell in the race. There are not so many big businesses in this country that are working well that we can afford the luxury of messing about fundamentally with one that is for purely doctrinal reasons.

This time the West—next time the world?



Leaders of seven major industrial nations meet on San Giorgio island, Venice (above) next Sunday for the latest round of talks on the world economy. David Blake reports

back in scope as developments at other meetings made it clear that the world is not yet ready for monetary reform.

Even if President d'Estaing were to launch a monetary plan in Venice, what possible response could the other western leaders make to it? All that they could do is to hand back the issue to those who really know what it is about.

That is an example of the sort of issue which all summit meetings are the wrong bodies to deal with.

Next week's Venice meeting has another limitation as a decision taking body which could, however, turn into a strength for the future. It is that the world is no longer run by the industrial western nations which are the only ones represented there.

When the notion of economic summit was first mooted in 1975 they were seen as a forum in which the leaders of the countries who mattered could get together and work out a common policy.

What is clear is that the issue is world monetary reform, which was going to be France's main contribution to the Venice meeting. Since that notion was first floated by President Giscard d'Estaing last year we have seen it more and more cut

because of the latest increase in oil prices.

The western financial system is coming under increasing strain because of the problems of recycling the huge surpluses which the Opec countries build up; and, looming over any recovery is the threat of some new blow in the form of a cutback in supplies of the sort caused by the events in Iran.

For much of the past five years the West has just hoped that Opec will go away, as Milton Friedman promised it would if oil prices were to rise as high as \$10 a barrel. At other times there have been attempts to mollify the Opec countries. These have taken the form of half-hearted schemes to guarantee the value of the assets which the large surplus earners have built up, coupled with promises that the West would cut back on its energy use.

None of these promises has meant anything. The International Monetary Federation's substitution account, which was designed to give the Opec countries (and others too) an orderly way out of the dollar has been a far more potent weapon for reducing energy consumption than any policy measures.

The Venice meeting is often billed as a world economic summit of the sort; it is just a caucus of western leaders. Only if those leaders show some serious interest in starting a dialogue with the rest of the world can the prospects of a long-term recovery from the immediate gloom be improved.

1980, M.P. No. 464

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER of American International Assurance Company, Limited

— and —

IN THE MATTER of the Companies Ordinance (Chapter 32)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, by an Order dated 5th June, 1980 made in the above matters, the Court has directed a Meeting to be convened of the holders of the shares of USSS each in the capital of the above-mentioned American International Assurance Company, Limited (hereinafter called "the Company") other than those owned beneficially by American International Reinsurance Company, Limited for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, approving (with or without modification) a Scheme of Arrangement proposed to be made between the Company and the holders of its shares other than those which are beneficially owned as aforesaid and that such Meeting will be held at The AIA Building, 20th Floor, No. 1, Stubbs Road, Hong Kong on Wednesday, 9th July, 1980 at 12 noon at which place and time all such shareholders are requested to attend.

Any person entitled to attend the said Meeting can obtain copies of a composite document containing the said Scheme of Arrangement and an Explanatory Statement together with forms of proxy at the registered office of the Company, at No. 1 Stubbs Road, Hong Kong, or at the office of the under-mentioned Solicitors at the address mentioned below during usual business hours on any day (other than a Sunday or public holiday) prior to the day appointed for the said Meeting.

The said shareholders may vote in person at the said Meeting or they may appoint another person, whether a member of the Company or not, as their proxy to attend and vote in their stead.

It is requested that forms appointing proxies be lodged with the Secretary at the registered office of the Company, at No. 1 Stubbs Road, Hong Kong, not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the said Meeting, but if forms are not so lodged they must be handed to the Chairman at the said Meeting.

In the case of joint holders, the vote of the senior who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, will be accepted to the exclusion of the vote(s) of the other joint holder(s), and for this purpose seniority will be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register of Members in respect of the joint holding.

By the said Order the Court has appointed Linden Edward Johnson as, failing him, Edward William Tilting to act as Chairman of the said Meeting and has directed the Chairman to report the result thereof to the Court.

The said Scheme of Arrangement will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Court.

Dated this 5th day of June, 1980.

STEPHENSON HARWOOD & LO
Swire House, 10th Floor,
Chater Road, Central,
HONG KONG.

Solicitors for the Company

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Trade figures send prices racing ahead

As expected, the new account got off to a roaring start yesterday bolstered by an encouraging set of May trade figures.

Equities as a whole enjoyed one of their best trading sessions in several weeks, as hopes of a cut in minimum lending rate during the summer months again took on a more realistic look. Prices raced ahead from the start as buyers, accompanied by strong institutional support, tried to take advantage of the buoyant conditions.

Only the jobbers still short of stock continued to show some hesitation, as some of the old hands talked about a burst in the bubble within the next day or two. But investors were in no mood for feeling sorry for jobbers caught on the hop, and only paused for breath just ahead of the trade figures, when some nervousness began to creep in.

But afterwards, prices again roared off. The F.T. Index, which had been going great guns all day, finally closed at 467.6. This was the biggest single rise since January 16 when the index leapt 13.8% in a renewal of institutional buying and the index's highest level since February 28, when it stood at 469.1.

This latest surge in institutional enthusiasm was also enjoyed by government securities which made some amazing headway. This was best pointed by the exhaustion of the new medium "tag" Eschequer 13% per cent 1994. The government broker was reported to have sold the remaining stock, amounting to about just under £500m, shortly after dealings began at 10 am with the price jumping £1 to £21.

As a result, the scene was set for another hectic session. Buyers rushed in, along with a

late influx of foreign investors attracted by the high rates of interest.

In longs, dealers reported keen demand, only pausing for breath ahead of the trade figures, but resuming the pace in after-hours when prices gained another £2 to £1. By the close of between £1 to £1 were seen.

At the shorter end of the market the activity was a little less boisterous, with trading taking a more cautious line. But in the early gains of between £1 to £1 were in evidence.

Despite the firm conditions, industrial leaders suffered a fairly quiet time with jobbers marking up prices, mostly through a stock shortage. However, far Eastern buyers treated the market to another lively session in Dunlop. They bought about 2m shares at 10p better yesterday at 32p while Bellhaven remained steady at 30p.

Elsewhere, ICI improved 8p to 38p along with Glaxo 6p to 224p, Unilever 7p to 45p, Fisons 8p to 25p, Hawker Siddeley 8p to 20p and BAe's 5p to 26p. Bowater attracted support up 10p at 181p, while small gains of between 2p to

3p were seen in Beecham at 138p and Courtaulds at 70p. Further consideration of last week's figures added 22p to Pilkington Bros at 228p.

In oils, the return of institutional support turned most eyes to the majors with strong support for BP up 10p at 380p, while Shell at 410p and Ultramar at 380p put on 5p apiece.

Second liners put on a mixed session in strong two-way business with speculators still retaining interest. Candecca was

influx of rights issues, speculators were undeterred and pushed the price 20p higher at 180p with Careless adding 2p to 138p.

Further talk of a promising find on the thistly field helped Burmah to a 5p rise at 228p, with Tricentrol adding another 6p to 380p. Profit-taking lopped 15p from Berkeley Exploration at 215p, following heavy new-time business last week and ahead of the drilling report.

Weekend comment provided a boost for stocks including Newcastle, up 38p to 253p, Associated News up 3p at 311p, Powell Duffryn up 8p at 186p and Siskelene up 17p at 200p. Speculative buying also helped Thorn-EMI for EMI's bingo interests. The enlarged electric giant's shares were 10p better yesterday at 32p while Bellhaven remained steady at 30p.

The big talking point, following its £5.7m cash call to shareholders, which followed hard on the heels of last week's similar request from its partner Careless Capel. Despite the recent

also helped Chamberlain Phipps 41p to 37p, Ferguson Ind. 6p to 94p and WGI 20p to 110p. But the opposite was the story for Lesney off 2p at 15p.

National Cars. 2p to 140p and North West Holt 5p to 115p.

In electrical and engineering, Vosper surged 22p to 160p, benefiting from the latest round of compensation rumours, while active buying lifted Thorn-EMI 12p to 24p. GEC was another strong market climbing 12p to 385p, along with Racal 16p to 264p. But adverse comment on profits hit Rank Org 2p to 196p.

Banks returned to favour ahead of the dividend season, with Barclays closing at 395p ex-cap, while Midland at 378p, and Nat West at 378p, both gained 11p. Lloyds improved 8p to 331p, and Hambrus jumped 31p following doubled profits and dividend.

Equity turnover on June 13 was £132.279m (17,256 bars). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were GEC, BP, Burmah, Shell, RTZ, ICI, Barclays Bank, National Westminster, Boots, Dalgate, Glaxo, GKN, Marks & Spencer, Unilever, and Allied Breweries.

Traded options: The renewed fervour in the equity market boiled over into traded options yesterday, with over 1,000 contracts being achieved before 11 am. The final figure was extended to 1,784.

Grand Met was a strong market after last week's better-than-expected profit increase with the October 160p series deriving particular benefit. ICI was also buoyant with 223 contracts along with Land Secs.

In traditional options dealers reported quiet conditions with a "put" arranged in Land Secs while "doubles" completed in C. Moran and Polly Peck.

'Insider laws will not inhibit directors'

Mr Reginald Eyre yesterday dismissed the notion that the Government's new laws to combat insider dealing would inhibit directors from holding shares in their own companies.

Speaking at the Institute of Directors' company law conference in London, the Under-Secretary of State for Trade said:

"Any fears expressed by honest businessmen about the insider dealing sections of the Companies Act 1980 are misplaced."

"I believe that the provisions as they have been enacted contain very considerable safeguards and limitations which will protect honest directors and employees and which will not inhibit them from holding shares in companies with which they are connected."

However, Mr Eyre said that he believed the new provisions, which come into force on June 23, "will operate against those who attempt to make thoroughly improper profit out of inside information".

Commenting on other parts of the 1980 Act which would affect directors, Mr Eyre said that Part IV, covering conflicts of interest, was detailed and complex because of the difficulties in trying to block various loopholes while leaving sufficient flexibility.

He felt that there would be little to disclose for most. But added: "The existence of the disclosure provisions, and the civil and criminal remedies, indicates our desire to see an end to the revelations of recent years, which only serve to reduce the public appreciation of the responsibility of those charged with directing companies."

MK Electric chief resigns on eve of results

cized in the past and board members were yesterday.

They are Mr Michael Hazzard, managing director of MK Electric Holdings, has resigned his post and left the board the night before the publication of the group's final results.

Mr Hazzard's resignation, which took the City by surprise, was said to be for personal reasons, but yesterday he explained that it had resulted from a divergence of views on the timing of the group's internationalization and diversification plans.

"I wanted to move faster in European markets than some of the other board members considered prudent," he said. He stressed that the disagreements had arisen gradually over several issues and that the timing of his departure was a matter of administrative convenience rather than linked with the figures.

Mr Hazzard, who is 55, added that he had reached an amicable financial agreement with the group although it was not a "golden handshake".

MK Electric's board structure, which left Mr Hazzard as sole executive director of the holding company, has been criti-

cized in the past and

by the figures.

Equally important, the figures

are the new ones.

Meanwhile, progress

is slow.

tractor Simon Engine

that order prospects

United Kingdom con-

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However, Harry Harrison, chair

at the annual meeting

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Meanwhile, progress

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Strong institutional buying

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, June 16. Dealings End, June 27. 5. Contango Day, June 30. Settlement Day, July 1.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

price, e Interim payment passed, f Price at suspension, Dividend and yield exclude a special payment by company, g Pre-merger figures, h Forecast earnings capital distribution, i Ea rights, j Ex-scrip or share Tax free, k Price adjusted for late dealings.

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Fernandine, a son; & to Fernand
Gérard, a daughter. Both to Fernand
Bedford, a brother for Ruth.
HARIBORO.—On June 13th, to
Trevor and Carol, and Michael.
HUNT.—On June 13th, to the 10th ai-
son, Richard James Gibbons,
William, General Hospital, North
Wind in Clare (newborn) and
Amanda, a daughter for Michael.
RICHARDSON.—On June 13th, to
Pamela, a son Carter, and David,
a daughter Elise Charlotte.
ROBERTSON.—On June 13th, to
Singapore, in Susanna and
Johnnie, a son.
ROTH.—On June 13th in London:
Samuel, new Noble
and Jennifer, a son for
Kathy.
MATVITY.—On June 13th at Queen
Charlotte's Hospital, London, to
John and Linda, a son Jake Carter.
MCGEORGE.—On June 13th at
Royal Free Hospital, in Chil-
dren's Hospital, a daughter
Michaela.

BIRTHDAY

GOTH.—Susan Warriner congratulates
on your 21st birthday.
Sally-Anne, Grandma, and
Grandad.

MARRIAGES

LEWIS.—ANNE SMITH, of June 7th, to
Philip, West Sussex. Dr.
Graham John Lewis, son of Mr.
and Mrs. Philip Lewis, and of
Karin Elizabeth, elder daughter
of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Andrew
Smith of Middleton-on-Sea, West
Sussex.

PEARL WEDDING

BUTLER-CLARK.—June 17, 1960.
Helen, Northampton.
Arnold in Australia. Now in
London, and son Christopher. De-
voted.

EMERALD WEDDING

POLLOCK-JOHNSON.—On the 17th
June, 1965, at St. Augustines
Church, London, Helen, to
Robert, a son Christopher, and
Tunbridge Wells.

DEATHS

ASLETT.—On June 13th, 1980.
Ernest Charles of Salford, died
peacefully, aged 80, at the
Hospital. Tributes.

BUCHANAN.—On June 13th, 1980.
Margaret, Royal Infirmary.
Peacefully at home.

CHESTER.—On June 13th, 1980.
Eleanor Sawyer, aged 81, wife
of John Christian, 22 Pitfield Ave.,
Chester.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

FERRANTI, SIR VINCENT, a
Memorial Requiem Mass will be
said at St. Paul's Cathedral on
18th July at 31 a.m.

IN MEMORIAM

ASTON-GWATKIN, Ivone, and
of Newmarket, Suffolk, 1912-1980.

BINGHAM.—On June 13th, 1980.
Margaret, Dept. Store, Royal Infir-
mary. Peacefully at home.

MONIER-WILLIAMS, ROY THORN-
TON, husband of Margaret, died
yesterday.

MONIER-WILLIAMS, ROY THORN-
TON, husband of Margaret, died
yesterday.

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